



Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-96-008
Thursday
11 January 1996

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

Daily Report

Central Eurasia

FBIS-SOV-96-008

CONTENTS

11 January 1996

NOTICE: Book Volume Nos. 005, 006, and 007 were not published due to federal government closure. An * indicates material not previously disseminated in electronic form.

DUMA ELECTION ISSUES

Key Developments

Names of Party Election List Winners Published [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 6 Jan]	1
Nine Elected Officials Give Up Deputy Seats [ITAR-TASS]	6

Regional Activities

Moscow Oblast Candidate Presses Vote-Rigging Charges [NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 4 Jan]	6
--	---

Commentary

Electoral Role of 'Marginalized' Elements Viewed [IZVESTIYA 6 Jan]	7
--	---

INTERREGIONAL AFFAIRS

Korotchenya Views CIS Summit, Integration Progress [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 6 Jan]	10
Official Hands Yeltsin Message to Tajik Head [INTERFAX]	10
ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 11 Jan	10

RUSSIA INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Yeltsin Speaks in Paris of His Friend Mitterrand [Moscow ORT]	12
President Yeltsin To Meet Kohl, Chirac in Paris [ITAR-TASS]	12
Moscow, France Discuss Mutual Relations, Chechnya [ITAR-TASS]	12
Yeltsin, Chirac Address Moscow's Role in G-7 [ITAR-TASS]	13
Yeltsin Leaves Paris After Mitterrand Service [ITAR-TASS]	13
Karasin on Chechen Situation, Foreign Policy Issues [Moscow RTV]	13
Pakistani Citizen Reportedly Prepared Kizlyar Raid [Moscow Radio]	14
Pakistani Involvement Not Confirmed [INTERFAX]	14
Georgia Reportedly Prepared To Help in Kizlyar Crisis [Radio Rossii]	14
Deployment of Peacekeeping Force to Bosnia Postponed [ITAR-TASS]	14
'Confrontation' Between U.S., Iran Said Peaking [Moscow International]	15
Commentary Views Russian Participation in KEDO Work [Moscow International]	15
Ukraine Blamed for Black Sea Fleet Transfers Delay [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 10 Jan]	16
Presidential Spokesman: Primakov New Foreign Minister [AFP]	16
Kozyrev's Career Seen Ending in 'Lost Opportunity' [IZVESTIYA 10 Jan]	16
Grachev Speaks on NATO Expansion, CFE, Army Reform [KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 6 Jan]	18

RUSSIA NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political Issues

Yeltsin Orders 'Resolute Actions' Against Chechen Terrorists [ITAR-TASS]	20
Yeltsin: 'Bandits' Must Answer for Actions [INTERFAX]	20
Yeltsin Decides To Hand Talks to Dagestan [Moscow ORT]	21
Yeltsin Orders Execution of Rebel Leaders [NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 10 Jan]	21

Dagestani Official on Helicopter Attacks on Convoy [Radio Rossii]	42
Helicopters Fire on Convoy From Kizlyar [Moscow RTV]	42
Hostage-Takers: We Will Not Kill Innocent People [Moscow ORT]	42
Rebels Demand Bridge Blockade Be Removed [ITAR-TASS]	43
Dagestani Official Warns Against Use of Force [INTERFAX]	43
Tikhomirov: Situation Does Not Require More Troops [ITAR-TASS]	43
Lebed Criticizes Government's Handling of Kizlyar [INTERFAX]	44
Yeltsin: Dagestan Has Primary Role in Talks With Rebels [Moscow Radio]	44
OSCE Chairman Condemns Terrorist Act in Kizlyar [ITAR-TASS]	44
Dudayev Seen Having Free Hand in North Caucasus [NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 10 Jan]	44
Khasbulatov Blames Presidential Election for Kizlyar [Moscow Radio]	45
Militants Drop Previous Demands; Ask For Buses [Moscow Radio]	45
Militants Barricaded in Hospital; Hostages on Top Floor [ITAR-TASS]	46
Russian Ministry Official Cited on Kizlyar Events [Moscow RTV]	46
Chechen Rebels Seen on 'Suicide Mission' [INFORMATSIONNOYE AGENTSTVO EKHO MOSKVI]	46
Yeltsin Attacks Officials for Allowing Kizlyar Events [ITAR-TASS]	47
Chechen Rebels Take Hostages in Kizlyar [ITAR-TASS]	47
Dagestan Ministry Gives Details on Kizlyar Capture [Moscow Radio]	47
Zavgayev: Kizlyar Raid Brings 'Shame' on Chechens [ITAR-TASS]	48
Chechen Leader Zavgayev Condemns Kizlyar Hostage-Taking [ITAR-TASS]	48
Radyuev Threatens To Reduce Kizlyar to 'Hell and Ashes' [Moscow RTV]	48
ITAR-TASS Gives Details of Bandit Leader	49
War Seen Set To Be Ended by Force After Kizlyar [NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 11 Jan]	49
Cossacks Discover Chechen Attack Planned Near Moscow [INTERFAX]	50

Economic Issues

Chernomyrdin Addresses Central Bank Employees [INTERFAX]	51
Yeltsin Chides Ministry Over Combine Plant [IZVESTIYA 6 Jan]	51
Oil Deal 'Undermining' Russian Interests [NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA 10 Jan]	54
Lukoil Clinches Deal To Open Subsidiaries in Moldova [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 6 Jan]	55
Fuel Minister on Sector Economics, Management [ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI 6 Jan]	55

UKRAINE

International Affairs

Ukraine To Exchange Warheads for Russian Nuclear Fuel [ITAR-TASS]	57
Shmarov on Warheads, Perry Meeting [UKRINFORM]	57
Defense Minister: Position on NATO Coincides With Russia [ITAR-TASS]	58
Official Discounts 'Combat Actions' by Troops in Bosnia [HOLOS UKRAYINY 5 Jan]	58

National Affairs

Nuclear Safety Minister Interviewed on Chernobyl [INTELNEWS]	58
Crimean Communists Call For Restoration of USSR [INTELNEWS]	60
PERC, Communists Seen Calling Shots in Crimea [MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI 1-14 Jan]	60
Justice Minister Calls For Increased Role [INTELNEWS]	61
Nationalists Accuse Defense Minister of Undermining Army [UNIAN]	61
Former Crimean Supsov Speaker Interviewed [VSEUKRAINSKIYE VEDOMOSTI 5 Jan]	61

Economic Issues

Kuchma Suspends VAT, Excise Tax Collection [INTELNEWS]	63
--	----

National Bank To Change Reserve Requirements 'Gradually' [INTELNEWS]	63
--	----

WESTERN REGION

Belarus

Parliament Fails To Elect Speaker [INTERFAX]	64
--	----

CENTRAL ASIA

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev Signs Decrees on Powers of State Leader [INTERFAX]	65
---	----

Kyrgyzstan

Cooperation Protocol Signed With Georgia [Radio Bishkek]	65
Government Adopts Agriculture Support Plan [Bishkek Radio]	65

CAUCASUS

Armenia

Deputy Emergency Minister Arrives at Hostage Site [ITAR-TASS]	66
Daily Discusses Reasons for British Minister's Visit [NOYAN TAPAN]	66
Armenian, Iranian Officials Inaugurate Bridge With Iran [Yerevan International]	67
ARFD Session Creates Election Commission [ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN]	67

Azerbaijan

Iran Rejects Overture on Joint Caspian Development [ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 6 Jan]	67
Official To Visit Tehran 22-25 Jan [TURAN]	67
Aliyev Wants Action in Karabakh, UK Cooperation in Oil [INTERFAX]	68
Gasanov Says Risking 'Satisfied' With Visit [TURAN 8 Jan]	69

Georgia

Shevardnadze Concerned About Security in Moscow [INTERFAX]	69
Seeks Security Guarantee [Tbilisi Radio]	69
Officials Discuss Shevardnadze's Security [IPRINDA]	69
Shevardnadze Denounces Killing in Gali Region [Tbilisi TV]	69
Denounces Terrorism of Chechen Rebels [ITAR-TASS]	70
Tbilisi Stops 200 Abkhaz Fighters Heading for Chechnya [Moscow RTV]	70
Abkhaz Parties Appeal to Yeltsin To Lift Blockade [Sukhumi Radio]	70
Deputy Foreign Minister, Kazakh Foreign Minister Hold Talks [CONTACT INFORMATION AGENCY]	71

BALTIC STATES

Estonia

Meri Calls Relations With Yeltsin Model for Tallinn, Moscow [INTERFAX]	72
Parliament Adopts Law on State of Emergency [BNS]	72

Latvia

Minister Says 1995 Deficit Hits 92 Million Lats [Riga Radio]	72
Premier Plans Cuts in Financing [Riga Radio]	72

Foreign Minister on European Integration Program [Riga Radio]	73
---	----

Lithuania

Foreign, Defense Ministers Submit Resignations [ITAR-TASS]	73
Brazauskas Comments on Resignations [Vilnius Radio]	73
Slezevicius Views Resignations [Vilnius Radio]	74
Foreign Minister To Retain Post [INTERFAX]	74
National Bank Chairman Tenders Resignation [INTERFAX]	74
Brazauskas Calls Russian Relations 'Normal,' 'Neighborly' [INTERFAX]	74
Foreign Minister Views Russia's Primakov Appointment [BNS]	75

Key Developments

Names of Party Election List Winners Published

MM0801142496 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 6 Jan 96 pp 6-7

["Elections of Deputies to the Russian Federation Federal Assembly State Duma Second Convocation 17 December 1995: Russian Federation Central Electoral Commission Protocol Data On the Distribution of Deputies' Seats in the Federal Electoral District Among Electoral Associations and Electoral Blocs (Compiled on the Basis of the Russian Federation Central Electoral

Commission Protocol of 29 December 1995 and Russian Federation Central Electoral Commission Decree No. 65/557-II of 4 January 1995)" — ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA headline]

[FBIS Translated Text] The number of No. 2 district electoral commission protocols, which have been used to compile this protocol, is 225.

On the basis of the No. 2 district electoral commission protocols and as a result of a summary of the figures contained therein the Central Electoral Commission has established:

1. The number of Russian Federation voters on the electoral rolls	107,496,558
2. The number of ballot papers issued to precinct electoral commissions	101,580,113
3. The number of ballot papers issued to voters at polling places on election day	65,937,507
4. The number of ballot papers issued to voters who voted early at:	
territorial electoral commissions	53,155
precinct electoral commissions	409,306
5. The number of ballot papers issued to voters who voted outside polling places	3,214,743
6. The number of canceled ballot papers	32,017,505
7. The number of ballot papers held in fixed ballot boxes (with the exceptions of nonstandard ballot papers)	65,999,318
8. The number of ballot papers held in mobile ballot boxes (with the exception of nonstandard ballot papers)	3,205,501
9. The total number of valid ballot papers	67,884,200
10. The total number of invalid ballot papers	371,125
including blank ballot papers	1,320,619
11. The number of voters who turned out	69,204,819

12. Names and Numbers of Electoral Associations, Electoral Blocs Candidates	13. Number of Votes Cast for Each Federal List of Registering Federal Lists of Candidates	
	In Figures	Percentage of turnout
1. "Women of Russia" Political Movement"	3,188,813	4.61
2. "Derzhava" Social-Patriotic Movement"	1,781,233	2.57
3. "Duma-96" Sociopolitical Movement"	55,897	0.08
4. "Transformation of the Fatherland"	339,654	0.49
5. "Tikhonov-Tupolev-Tikhonov"	102,039	0.15

This report may contain copyrighted material. Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.

12. Names and Numbers of Electoral Associations, Electoral Blocs Candidates	13. Number of Votes Cast for Each Federal List of Registering Federal Lists of Candidates	
6. "Russian Nationwide Movement"	86,422	0.12
7. "'Nur' ('Svet') All-Russia Muslim Public Movement"	393,513	0.57
8. "Federal-Democratic Movement"	82,948	0.12
9. "Election Bloc Comprising the Leaders of the Party for the Protection of Children (Peace, Good, and Happiness), the 'Russian Women' Party, the Orthodox (Faith, Hope, and Charity) Party, the People's Christian Monarchy Party, the Party for the Union of Slav Peoples, the 'Mother Earth' Party of Rural Laborers, the Party for the Defense of Invalids, and the Party of Victims of the Authorities and the Deprived"	145,704	0.21
10. "Interethnic Union"	39,592	0.06
11. "'Stable Russia' Sociopolitical Movement"	81,265	0.12
12. "Watershed Generation"	44,202	0.06
13. "My Fatherland"	496,276	0.72
14. "For the Motherland!"	194,254	0.28
15. "'Common Cause' Nonparty Voters Political Movement"	472,615	0.68
16. "Independents' Bloc"	83,742	0.12
17. "'Russia Is Our Home' All-Russia Sociopolitical Movement"	7,009,291	10.13
18. "Pamfilov-Gurov-Vladimir Lysenko (Republican Party of the Russian Federation)"	1,106,812	1.60
19. "'Yabloko' Sociopolitical Movement"	4,767,384	6.89
20. "'Forward, Russia!' Sociopolitical Movement"	1,343,428	1.94
21. "'89' (Regions of Russia)"	40,840	0.06
22. "'Kedr' Ecological Party of Russia"	962,195	1.39
23. "Russia's Democratic Choice-United Democrats"	2,674,084	3.86
24. "Party of Russian Unity and Accord"	245,977	0.36
25. "Communist Party of the Russian Federation"	15,432,963	22.30
26. "Stanislav Govorukhin Bloc"	688,496	0.99
27. "Association of Russian Lawyers"	242,966	0.35
28. "National Republican Party of Russia"	331,700	0.48
29. "Social Democrats"	88,642	0.13
30. "Power to the People!"	1,112,873	1.61

12. Names and Numbers of Electoral Associations, Electoral Blocs Candidates	13. Number of Votes Cast for Each Federal List of Registering Federal Lists of Candidates	
31. "Congress of Russian Communities' Sociopolitical Movement"	2,980,137	4.31
32. "Trade Unions and Industrialists of Russia-Union of Labor"	1,076,072	1.55
33. "Liberal Democratic Party of Russia"	7,737,431	11.18
34. "Election Bloc Comprising the Leaders of the Party for the Defense of Pensioners and Veterans, the Party for Eradicating Crime — Law and Order, the Party for the Defense of Health Care, Education, Science, and Culture, the Party for the Protection of Youth, the Association of Free Trade Unions, the Party of Justice, and the Environmental Protection Party"	323,232	0.47
35. "Party of Working People's Self-Government"	2,756,954	3.98
36. "Communists-Working Russia-For the Soviet Union"	3,137,406	4.53
37. "Beer Lovers' Party"	428,727	0.62
38. "Ivan Rytkin Bloc"	769,259	1.11
39. "Party of Economic Freedom"	88,416	0.13
40. "'Peoples' Union' Party"	130,728	0.19
41. "Agrarian Party of Russia"	2,613,127	3.78
42. "'Christian-Democratic Union-Christians of Russia' Political Party"	191,446	0.28
43. "Union of Russian Housing and Utilities Workers"	97,274	0.14

14. The number of votes cast against all federal lists of candidates is 1,918,151.

15. The names of electoral associations, electoral blocs which qualified for an allocation of deputies' seats:

- "'Russia Is Our Home' All-Russia Sociopolitical Movement;
- "'Yabloko' Public Movement";
- "Communist Party of the Russian Federation";
- "Liberal-Democratic Party of Russia."

16. In accordance with Articles 62 and 70 of the Federal Law "On Elections of Russian Federation Federal Assembly State Duma Deputies" the Russian Federation Central Electoral Commission has established the following number of deputies' seats received by each of the federal lists of the electoral associations, electoral blocs which qualified for an allocation of deputies' seats:

Name of Electoral Association, Electoral Bloc	Number of Deputies' Seats
"Russia Is Our Home' All-Russia Sociopolitical Movement"	45
"'Yabloko' Public Association"	31
"Communist Party of the Russian Federation"	99

Name of Electoral Association, Electoral Bloc	Number of Deputies' Seats
"Liberal-Democratic Party of Russia"	50
Total	225

17. On the basis of Articles 23, 62, and 70 of the Federal Law "On Elections of Russian Federation Federal Assembly State Duma Deputies" the Russian Federation Central Electoral Commission has established that the following were elected as deputies to the Russian Federation Federal Assembly State Duma Second Convocation in the federal electoral district:

The "'Russia Is Our Home' All-Russia Sociopolitical Movement" Federal List:

1. Viktor Stepanovich Chernomyrdin
2. Nikita Sergeyevich Mikhalkov
3. Lev Yakovlevich Rokhlin
4. Sergey Georgiyevich Belyayev
5. Daniya Yusufovna Karimova
6. Zhores Ivanovich Alferov
7. Galina Borisovna Volchek
8. Nikolay Ilich Travkin
9. Vladimir Georgiyevich Kinelev
10. Vladimir Fedorovich Bashmachnikov
11. Aleksandr Gavrilovich Martynov
12. Vladimir Aleksandrovich Ryzhkov
13. Mikhail Yevgeniyevich Bugera
14. Ramil Imamgazamovich Bignov
15. Gamid Rashidovich Askerkhanov
16. Mukharbi Magomedovich Ulbashev
17. Vladimir Dmitriyevich Sirotkin
18. Insaf Sharifullovich Sayfullin
19. Vasily Petrovich Almyashkin
20. Vladimir Yurevich Zorin
21. Aleksey Petrovich Andreyev
22. Nikolay Dmitriyevich Podufalov
23. Sergey Vasilyevich Petrenko
24. Gennadiy Konstantinovich Volkov
25. Vasily Aleksandrovich Khomutov
26. Georgiy Ivanovich Luntovskiy
27. Grigoriy Ivanovich Galaziy
28. Vyacheslav Nikolayevich Skvortsov
29. Roman Semenovich Popkovich
30. Andrey Aleksandrovich Polyakov
31. Sergey Gerasimovich Mitin
32. Oleg Pavlovich Gonzharov
33. Aleksandr Ivanovich Kuvshinov
34. Boris Yuryevich Kuznetsov
35. Vitaliy Viktorovich Linnik
36. Vladimir Fedorovich Sharapov
37. Aleksandr Lazarevich Paradiz
38. Aleksandr Leonidovich Strakhov

39. Yevgeniy Yuryevich Sidorov
40. Zhakslyk Kuantayevich Altynbayev
41. Vladimir Iosifovich Resin
42. Aleksandr Nikolayevich Shokhin
43. Valeriy Vasilyevich Grebennikov
44. Vladimir Grigoryevich Sister
45. Aleksey Ivanovich Aleksandrov

The "'Yabloko' Public Association" Federal List:

1. Grigoriy Alekseyevich Yavlinskiy
2. Vladimir Petrovich Lukin
3. Tatyana Vladimirovna Yarygina
4. Vyacheslav Vladimirovich Igrunov
5. Aleksey Yuryevich Melnikov
6. Oksana Genrikhovna Dmitriyeva
7. Aleksey Georgiyevich Arbatov
8. Boris Grigoryevich Misnik
9. Viktor Leonidovich Sheynis
10. Mikhail Zinoviyevich Yuryev
11. Ivan Dmitriyevich Grachev
12. Sergey Sergeyevich Mitrokhin
13. Mikhail Konstantinovich Glubokovskiy
14. Rinat Ishbuldovich Sultanov
15. Aleksey Yuryevich Mikhaylov
16. Viktor Vladimirovich Gitin
17. Igor Lvovich Lukashev
18. Ivan Nikolayevich Duryagin
19. Aleksey Konstantinovich Zakharov
20. Igor Viktorovich Babichev
21. Sergey Viktorovich Ivanenko
22. Viktor Stepanovich Medvedko
23. Saak Albertovich Karapetyan
24. Sergey Vladimirovich Grushak
25. Aleksandr Vladimirovich Kuznetsov
26. Georgiy Mikhaylovich Sadchikov
27. Yuriy Petrovich Shchekochikhin
28. Vladimir Petrovich Averchev
29. Sergey Eduardovich Don
30. Boris Aleksandrovich Moiseyev
31. Aleksandr Vladimirovich Shishlov

"Communist Party of the Russian Federation" Electoral Association Federal List:

1. Gennadiy Andreyevich Zyuganov
2. Aman-geldy Moldagazyevich Tuleyev
3. Valentin Vasilyevich Chikin
4. Yuriy Dmitriyevich Maslyukov

5. Valentin Aleksandrovich Kuptsov
6. Anatoliy Vasilyevich Ionov
7. Valeriy Mikhaylovich Tarasov
8. Yuriy Pavlovich Ivanov
9. Aleksey Ivanovich Podberezkin
10. Nikolay Nikolayevich Savelyev
11. Valeriy Pavlovich Vorotnikov
12. Vyacheslav Andreyevich Boyko
13. Mikhail Vladimirovich Filshin
14. Vladimir Vladimirovich Semago
15. Yevgeniy Vasilyevich Maksimov
16. Sergey Aleksandrovich Potapov
17. Vladimir Aleksandrovich Kalyagin
18. Vladimir Alekseyevich Stepanov
19. Grigoriy Andreyevich Kuyevda
20. Sergey Georgiyevich Nigkoyev
21. Nina Vladimirovna Berdnikova
22. Aleksandr Sergeyevich Sokolov
23. Konstantin Sergeyevich Savelyev
24. Tamara Mikhaylovna Gudima
25. Vladimir Pavlovich Gromov
26. Yuriy Konstantinovich Sevenard
27. Nikolay Gavrilovich Bindyukov
28. Vladimir Stepanovich Nikitin
29. Svyatoslav Mikhaylovich Sokol
30. Yuriy Yevgeniyevich Lodkin
31. Viktor Petrovich Peshkov
32. Vyacheslav Konstantinovich Sokolov
33. Vladimir Nikolayevich Smolyakov
34. Sergey Nikolayevich Falaleyev
35. Georgiy Vasilyevich Kostin
36. Mikhail Fedorovich Kosykh
37. Oleg Petrovich Grishkevich
38. Nina Ivanovna Kulbaka
39. Viktor Mikhaylovich Popov
40. Aleksandr Venidiktovich Korovnikov
41. Vladimir Aleksandrovich Kazakovtsev
42. Sergey Vasilyevich Svinin
43. Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Shabanov
44. Valentin Sergeyevich Shurchanov
45. Aleksandr Ivanovich Saliy
46. Mullanur Fakhraziyevich Ganeyev
47. Rinat Gindullovich Gabidullin
48. Nasima Kalimovna Stolyarova
49. Yevgeniy Alekseyevich Kosterin
50. Aleksandr Leonidovich Kruglikov
51. Vladimir Aleksandrovich Leonchev
52. Yevgeniy Ivanovich Gazeyev
53. Viktor Ivanovich Salnikov
54. Yuriy Vasilyevich Lyzhin
55. Yuriy Ivanovich Poldnikov
56. Darya Aleksandrovna Mitina
57. Vyacheslav Fedorovich Mikhaylov
58. Violetta Konstantinovna Kosheva

59. Nikolay Vasilyevich Arefyev
60. Leonid Andreyevich Ivanchenko
61. Boris Grigoryevich Kibirev
62. Yuriy Ivanovich Burlutskiy
63. Kazbek Aslanbechevich Tsiku
64. Aleksandr Igorevich Yeliseyev
65. Konstantin Georgiyevich Meremyanin
66. Yevgeniy Aleksandrovich Smetankin
67. Gennadiy Matveyevich Benov
68. Vasilyy Dmitriyevich Slavnny
69. Mikhail Semenovich Surkov
70. Sergey Nikolayevich Reshulskiy
71. Sergey Aleksandrovich Totiyev
72. Vladimir Khasanbiyevich Temirzhanov
73. Viktor Stepanovich Shevelukha
74. Nikclay Ivanovich Sapozhnikov
75. Valentin Ivanovich Varennikov
76. Lyubov Vasilyevna Oleyrik
77. Yuriy Vasilyevich Nikiforenko
78. Aleksandr Alekseyevich Kravets
79. Anatoliy Georgiyevich Chekhoyev
80. Viktor Ilich Zorkaltsev
81. Vitaliy Aleksandrovich Safronov
82. Lyubov Nikitichna Shvets
83. Aleksandr Adrianovich Pomorov
84. Viktor Vasilyevich Romashkin
85. Gennadiy Ilich Berdov
86. Vadim Donatovich Filimonov
87. Viktor Yevgeniyevich Panin
88. Petr Vasilyevich Romanov
89. Vladislav Grigoryevich Yurchik
90. Viktor Mikhaylovich Vidmanov
91. Vera Semenovna Savchuk
92. Gennadiy Nikolayevich Seleznev
93. Gennadiy Yefimovich Gamza
94. Valentin Filippovich Knys
95. Vladimir Vitalyevich Grishukov
96. Nikolay Nikolayevich Gubenko
97. Ivan Ivanovich Melnikov
98. Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Kuvayev
99. Nikolay Nikolayevich Korsakov

"Liberal-Democratic Party of Russia" Electoral Association Federal List:

1. Vladimir Volfovich Zhirinovskiy
2. Sergey Nikolayevich Abeltsev
3. Aleksandr Dmitriyevich Vengerovskiy
4. Stanislav Mikhaylovich Zhebrovskiy
5. Aleksey Valentinovich Mitrofanov
6. Mikhail Safarbekovich Gutseriyev
7. Mikhail Lvovich Monastyrskiy
8. Mikhail Ivanovich Musatov
9. Vladimir Kuzmich Gusev

10. Oleg Aleksandrovich Finko
11. Sergey Vyacheslavovich Kalashnikov
12. Nikolay Pavlovich Astafyev
13. Valeriy Veniaminovich Zlobin
14. Igor Alekseyevich Demidov
15. Viktor Grigoryevich Vishnyakov
16. Vladimir Mikhaylovich Kostyutkin
17. Vladimir Aleksandrovich Lisichkin
18. Vasilii Vasilyevich Zhurko
19. Yevgeniy Aleksandrovich Bolshakov
20. Stanislav Konstantinovich Zarichanskiy
21. Sergey Sergeyevich Semenov
22. Sergey Vladimirovich Sychev
23. Gennadiy Vladimirovich Lemeshov
24. Pavel Anatolyevich Voykin
25. Yevgeniy Petrovich Ishchenko
26. Yuriy Pavlovich Kuznetsov
27. Yuriy Nikolayevich Parshakov
28. Nikolay Anatolyevich Makarov
29. Yegor Yuryevich Solomatin
30. Mikhail Yuryevich Vakulenko
31. Vyacheslav Viktorovich Kiselev
32. Aleksandr Ivanovich Kozyrev
33. Vladimir Ivanovich Davidenko
34. Aleksey Alekseyevich Zuyev
35. Aleksandr Vladimirovich Kits
36. Stanislav Yunusovich Magomedov
37. Sergey Vasilyevich Skurikhin
38. Yevgeniy Eduardovich Mikhaylov
39. Viktor Ulyanovich Korniyenko
40. Viktor Nikolayevich Rakov
41. Vsevolod Gennadyevich Davydov
42. Ivan Ivanovich Mityayev
43. Vladimir Viktorovich Pchelkin
44. Vladimir Veniaminovich Zlobin
45. Nina Viktorovna Krivelskaya
46. Aleksandr Valentinovich Filatov
47. Aleksandr Fedorovich Kishkinev
48. Vladimir Vladimirovich Bogatov
49. Aleksandr Ivanovich Zhukovskiy
50. Vyacheslav Alekseyevich Shevchenko

[signed] Aleksandr Albertovich Veshnyakov, secretary of the Russian Federation Central Electoral Commission

Nine Elected Officials Give Up Deputy Seats

LD0501151096 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1452 GMT 5 Jan 96

[By Igor Belskiy]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, January 5 (ITAR-TASS) — The Central Electoral Commission received on Friday morning applications from nine people elected to the State Duma (Russian parliament lower house) by

party lists, who give up their deputy seats. This is corroborated by information received from the Commission on Friday.

According to this information, film director Nikita Mikhalkov, First Deputy Premier of the Moscow government Vladimir Resin, Russian Minister of Culture Yevgeniy Sidorov and Vasilii Khomutov, managing director of the Sarepta joint-stock society in Volgograd, who were elected by the list of the Our Home is Russia (NDR) movement, tendered their resignations.

The Commission says in its document that 39 candidates elected to the Duma by the NDR lists surrendered duties, incompatible with their new deputy status.

Five deputies who ran by lists of the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia, preferred their former duties to parliamentary activities. A total of 44 candidates elected by lists of the LDPR preferred parliamentary work to their former duties and sent applications to the Commission, giving up their former posts.

The Commission also received applications from 23 people elected by lists of the Yabloko movement, saying that they give up their powers, incompatible with the deputy status. Similar applications were tendered by 66 deputies from the Russian Communist Party.

The Commission continues to receive such applications.

Regional Activities

Moscow Oblast Candidate Presses Vote-Rigging Charges

MK0501130096 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA
in Russian 4 Jan 96 p 2

[Report by Grigoriy Nekhoroshev: "Valeriy Galchenko Continues Legal Action Against Moscow Oblast Electoral Commission. He Will Use His Litigation Experience for 'Writing Laws'"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Valeriy Galchenko, deputy speaker of the Moscow Oblast Duma, has described the second round of elections for the Moscow Oblast governor as a downright farce that has nothing to do with democracy.

According to the Moscow Oblast administration's Information Department, in the course of these elections Moscow Oblast Governor Anatoliy Tyazhlov was elected for a second term. However, according to his main rival, Valeriy Galchenko, the elections proceeded with gross violations of the law "On the Election of the Moscow Oblast Governor."

This paper earlier wrote that Mr. Galchenko tried to contest in court the decision by the Moscow Oblast

Electoral Commission to set elections for 30 December. Under the law, the second round of voting should have been held not earlier than 20 days after the results of the election, which took place on 21 December, were summed up. Furthermore, the oblast commission violated the law by "involving conscripts in the elections." The Moscow Oblast Court did not challenge the decision by the Moscow Oblast Electoral Commission, and then Galchenko tried to appeal to the Russian Federation Supreme Court. But the Moscow Oblast Court failed to provide the required documents on time, and Tyazhlov's rival sought to pull out of the second round of elections. Under Moscow Oblast law, he had a right to do so one day before election day. But the Moscow Oblast Electoral Commission did not exclude Galchenko from the list.

"There is a certain reason why I so insisted on elections being held within the established time frame. Apart from the fact that I cannot stand for violations of the law, it should be borne in mind that the whole executive power pyramid is under Tyazhlov's control. Thus, the possibilities for ballot-rigging at polling stations are enormous. To stand up to this, time was needed to organize monitoring at 3,200 stations. I was not in a position to do this within eight days," Galchenko told NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA's commentator.

According to him, in order to ensure the 25 percent turnout necessary for the elections to be deemed valid, election commission representatives went from house to house in the evening with ballot boxes, "forcing [people] to vote."

"The vote has been clearly rigged; there is no question about this as far as I am concerned," Mr. Galchenko summed up.

His appeal will be filed with the Supreme Court today or tomorrow.

"I will secure a court decision on all three violation counts. I am not a judicial troublemaker, but I will bring this procedure to completion so as to understand how our judicial system works. This interests me as a lawmaker, from the point of view of writing laws for Moscow Oblast. If the Supreme Court passes a negative judgment, I shall appeal to the Constitutional Court. And then I shall continue to work, as I did, in the Moscow Oblast Duma, watching the situation in the oblast, which will certainly not get any better after such elections. An illegitimate governor cannot do anything good in the foreseeable future," Galchenko told NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA's commentator.

In the course of the election collisions Grigoriy Yavlin-sky and Sergey Shakh-ray threw their weight behind

Mr. Galchenko. Meanwhile, Anatoliy Tyazhlov is supported by the government party "Russia Is Our Home." In the past his good relations with the government helped Tyazhlov overcome various problems. Last year he managed to "squeeze out" several billion rubles for Moscow Oblast in addition to the approved budget. Given that a large number of defense enterprises are located in Moscow Oblast, Tyazhlov's connections in the government have not been insignificant to the vote for his candidacy. Even though, judging by federal election results, Moscow Oblast residents are rather cool toward the NDR bloc itself.

Commentary

Electoral Role of 'Marginalized' Elements Viewed

MM0801112496 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
6 Jan 96 p 2

[Article by Teymuraz Mamaladze of the IZVESTIYA Analysis Center under the "Elections-96" rubric: "Where Did These 'Marginalized' Elements Come From..."]

[FBIS Translated Text] The approaching short dash of the presidential elections keeps prompting us to look back at the results of the 17 December elections. The numerous assessments of them are also worth regarding in the same light. It is clear who was elected to the Duma. Who elected them, and how, is not entirely clear. Serious errors in assessing their own electoral areas cost many people their longed-for seats in the Duma. Then the fog was made denser by the press's analytical vapors — as contradictory as they are speedy.

The results are assessed in different ways, which is, in fact, usually the case. But the differences are so great that one cannot help surmising that there is something unusual about this pluralism itself.

On the one hand we have "the voter voted exceptionally rationally," and on the other, "the incomprehensible Russian soul," "the land of slaves, the marginalized, and the lumpen."

Some people assure Russia that it has gone crazy, others that it has come to its senses.

"Elections are not war," V.S. Chernomyrdin exhorts his rivals, and in return he gets actions planned according to all the rules of conducting hostilities by means of regular troops and guerrilla detachments.

The preaching of civilized methods in the election contest comes up against the painfully, heartbreakingly familiar propaganda of hatred, which receives — this is the saddest thing of all — no legal rebuff.

The rapture over the triumph of democratic procedure revealed in the 1995 elections drowns out the weeping over the grave of the democratic camp, which passed away as a result of internal ambition, hysteria, and phobias.

"The comrades are following the true path!" — this comment on the choice of Zyuganov's Communists, who supposedly played commendably by the rules of the democratic game, is counteracted by a wise warning: "Organizations professing antidemocratic values have sprung up on the basis of democratic institutions."

You don't know — the incomprehensible voter's soul admits in a letter to IZVESTIYA — whether to rejoice or weep: On the one hand "the period of the universal passion for democracy did not pass in vain," but on the other, as a result "even those whose aim is totalitarianism regard democratic procedures as a means of achieving it."

It appears undeniable that the new Duma will be an organ of semi-representative democracy. Apparently everyone has agreed with the calculations that show that only 50.19 percent of those who took part in the 17 December elections will be represented in the Duma by the four parties that got in. There is also apparently no dispute as to which strata of Russian society obtained representation in the Duma. The tiresome cacophony in the media is giving way to a harmonious polyphony of views on the nature and character of the winning parties' electorates.

On listening to this, you cannot help becoming convinced that the CPRF [Communist Party of the Russian Federation] was voted for exclusively by elderly and old people — people who are either humiliated and aggrieved, or who feel nostalgic for the past, or who are in the grip of a complex mixture of these states and feelings. As yesterday's people, they voted — it is said — for the party of the past, refuting Lenin's maxim and Zyuganov's dream of the party of the future that is followed most enthusiastically by young people.

Which provided V.V. Zhirinovskiy with a pretext for describing the CPRF's victory as the Communists' swan song.

As for the LDPR's [Liberal Democratic Party of Russia] sensational and totally unpredicted second place in the 1995 elections, nobody is in any hurry to describe this in the same way. The extremely stereotypical assessments of the "Zhirinovskiy" electorate sound rather like the prayer for the dying: "Marginalized, lumpen strata of society who have lost their social roots and social status...."

If the country has 11.18 percent — more than 7.5 million — "borderline," declassé semi-citizens who have been pushed onto the sidelines of life, if their habitat extends from Maritime Kray to Komi, taking in the Volga, the Northwest, the South, and other regions of Russia — the so-called depression zones, then should we not take more seriously both the phenomenon itself and the party that, it is claimed, reflects it?

If, of course, it really is the party of "marginalized" Russia, the party which, incidentally, had perhaps the biggest funds of all to spend on the election campaign. Which in itself casts doubt on its orientation and reliance exclusively on marginal and lumpen elements, who, it is well known, live on handouts or as parasites on others.

As for seriousness of views, there are, after all, other viewpoints — based on large-scale studies by the All-Russia Center for the Study of Public Opinion on Social and Economic Questions — from which it emerges that this party of young people (the average age is 30-32) is most popular among young inhabitants of small towns with no access to the sector in which the market economy is combined with democratic relations. "They come into small business," the sociologist Aleksey Levinson writes, "often business of a criminal or semi-criminal nature," and, being highly passive politically, they express sympathies for the party that does not threaten the system to which they have adapted. [no closing quotemarks as published] Namely, the LDPR. However, in the sociologist's opinion, Zhirinovskiy's party, by failing to offer them a consolidation of the existing order of things, has robbed itself of the prospect of widening its electoral base in that sector. Just as another "party of the status quo" which got into parliament, the NDR ["Russia Is Our Home"], could have widened the base of its mass support by drawing on "young small business" from the small town and settlement milieu, but failed to do so.

Nonetheless, the author of the study predicts that strong, influential figures could spring from this soil in certain regions, figures who will want to turn their political aspirations into a kind of "big party of small storekeepers," utilizing the LDPR's experience and arsenal.

So the situation regarding the "marginalized" elements is not as simple as certain hasty "blood tests" indicate. In particular, it is not simple in view of the fact that the degree and extent of marginalization of society and the percentage of citizens pushed off the rails is a headache for any normal "civilized" government that is concerned about stability and the state of the social climate not only on the eve of parliamentary and presidential elections.

Having no access to up-to-date Russian data, I will cite some "Soviet" data. Between the early fifties and the late seventies, the migration of rural inhabitants to the cities and to "shock" construction projects totaled some 2 million people. In this context the peculiar shantytown subculture with its corresponding "borderline" type of person, born in the years of the first five-year plans, continued to develop and take root. This social type subsequently diversified, with the addition of "quota workers," construction battalions, chemical workers, "zeks" [convicts], and technical school graduates. Before the breakup of the USSR some 50 million people were engaged in manual labor. Women accounted for 50.9 percent of the total number of workers and employees, while in the postwar year 1950 that indicator was 47.5. By the beginning of the eighties the number of housewives had fallen nine-fold — from 38 million to 4.5 million. The harsh working and living conditions, prompting an accelerated increase — up to a million a year — in the number of "superfluous" people: 20 million disabled; 5.3 million suffering from various mental illnesses; some 22 million alcoholics, leading to an annual increase of 120,000 in the number of backward children — these and many other figures cited by the commentator Yevgeniy Starikov in his work "The Marginalized" (1989), painting a picture of the internal degeneration of Soviet society, should be regarded as part of the legacy that Russia received from the disintegrated Soviet Union, as its heir.

The pictures painted by the Communists of the present-day post-Soviet Russian hell take no account of this inferno that preceded it.

Russia inherited, as a significant part of this legacy, the "Soviet person," the "state-minded person," an "endangered species" — that was the heading given to a study on the subject by a group of staffers of the All-Russia Center for the Study of Public Opinion on Social and Economic Questions under the leadership of Yuriy Levada, though admittedly the heading culminated in

a question mark. However, they negated the question mark with their single, inescapable conclusion: "The upheavals that society is undergoing and the disappearance of Soviet symbols and phraseology will not lead to speedy changes in his [the Soviet person's] social and anthropological basis. Raised, chosen, and placed in the corresponding sociocultural niche by the Soviet system, this person will remain 'Soviet' for a long time.... Ready to proclaim his commitment to democracy out of revulsion for the old system, but by no means adapted to democratic institutions. Ready to follow new leaders in the hope that they will turn out to be fathers of the people, leaders, and saviors, and likely to turn away from these leaders fairly quickly if they fail to justify those hopes...."

This creature, not yet an "endangered species," exists in many of us in various forms, and if only for this reason we should not claim, without having any precise data in our hands, that it is only old people who are following the Communists into battle. Without knowing how, in the years of upheavals, shakeups, and "reshuffles" of Russia's social system, the structure of Russian society has changed, it is dangerous to indiscriminately classify millions of people as "marginalized" and "lumpen" elements or as supporters of the "party of power," which, it is emerging, was not only voted for by state officials, Gazprom people, and those with "sunstroke."

The point is not only that the arguing over the 17 December results confuses and disorients a society that is already confused and stumbling around in the dark. It creates a false appearance of self-knowledge, where there is only an optical illusion, and nothing more.

Among the many definitions of marginalization, one that stands out is "the absence of any links with society, manifested in a feeling of being lost, of grievance, cynicism, and despair."

Are we not threatened by something of that kind?

Korotchenya Views CIS Summit, Integration Program

MM0801105396 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 6 Jan 96 p 9

[Interview with CIS Executive Secretary Ivan Korotchenya by Aleksandr Shinkin; place and date not given: "It Is Difficult Without One Another" — from the "Departmental Supplement"; first paragraph is ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA introduction]

[FBIS Translated Text] The meeting of heads of CIS states is scheduled for Moscow 19 January. What questions will it discuss? What are the prospects for the CIS countries' integration in the new year? These were among the questions that your ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA correspondent put to CIS Executive Secretary Ivan Korotchenya.

[Shinkin] The preparation of the agenda for a conference like this takes much time and effort on the part of the experts, as a rule. Has the agenda of the forthcoming meeting been agreed already?

[Korotchenya] Yes, the meeting's preliminary agenda was drawn up just before New Year. It contains around two dozen questions on the most topical problems facing the CIS. Hypothetically they may be divided into two blocs now. Block one contains the drafts which have passed through all the coordination stages and which will undoubtedly be discussed at the heads of states' meeting. Block two consists of problems on which there is no common opinion yet or which require the adoption of a decision by the states' leaders.

[Shinkin] What kind of questions will be submitted to the judgment of the CIS leaders?

[Korotchenya] The heads of state will be asked to discuss the draft concept on the prevention and settlement of conflicts on CIS territory. On Kazakhstan's initiative the leaders will also discuss a draft convention which should make it easier for the citizens of one CIS state to obtain the citizenship of another CIS country. The meeting is due to adopt a decision on the admission of Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Tajikistan into the Customs Union.

[Shinkin] I believe that during the five years of its existence the CIS has adopted around 600 different decisions. However, what benefit have they produced? The CIS has hardly made any progress toward integration.

[Korotchenya] Such an opinion is often expressed. But I believe that it is unjust. Six hundred documents in five years are not enough to organize the complex mechanism of the new CIS. However, do not forget that at first everyone tried to divide things up. But

when they finally saw that the states' economic affairs were not proceeding very well they began talking about integration. Despite the complexities the CIS has begun moving along that path.

A treaty on economic union has been concluded, the "Basic Guidelines of the Integrated Development of the CIS to the Year 2000" has been adopted, the Interstate Economic Committee is working, and agreements have been signed on a customs union, a payments union, and a currency union. This will not begin working overnight, of course; it will require quite a lot of time. But nevertheless, I do not believe that it will take 30 years, as it has done in Europe, but far less than that. Look at how the Customs Union is taking shape: A year ago it was concluded by Russia and Belarus. They were immediately joined by Kazakhstan.

Official Hands Yeltsin Message to Tajik Head

LD0801154896 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1400 GMT 8 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] DUSHANBE, Jan 8 (Interfax) — The Russian ambassador to Tajikistan Mecheslav Senkevich handed a personal message from President Boris Yeltsin to the Tajik head of state Emomali Rakhmanov in Dushanbe Monday. Among other things the message contained matters related to the next CIS summit in Moscow.

After the meeting Senkevich told Interfax there are three items on the agenda of the summit related to Tajikistan, in particular the extension of the mandate of the joint peacekeeping force in Tajikistan expiring in mid-January.

In his personal opinion the mandate should be prolonged because the force is the guarantor of peace, stability and security in Tajikistan as well as Central Asia as a whole.

CIS leaders are also to discuss the appointment of a new commander of the force and guarantees of the security of the Tajik-Afghan border.

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 11 Jan

LD1101020096 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0151 GMT 96

["Press Review" — ITAR-TASS headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, January 11 (ITAR-TASS) — All Moscow-based newspapers highlight the Kizlyar hostage drama on Thursday.

ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA publishes a detailed report of its correspondent in North Caucasus on the Chechen terrorist attack on the Daghestani town.

IZVESTIYA headlines its report by asking "Basayev, Raduyev... Who next and where?" It refers to the two Chechen terrorists who staged the large-scale hostage-taking operations in Budennovsk and Kizlyar. The newspaper also said that Daghestani residents were indignant over the actions of Chechen militants.

ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI says "the president said what we wanted to hear: there can be no concessions to terrorists".

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA stressed that the Chechen militants are holding the whole of Russia in "an iron fist". "Moscow threatens there would be no mercy for the criminals. But they do not count on it and shield themselves by defenceless people. Will they escape punishment this time as well?" the newspaper asks.

It also carries an article on the operation performed by Japanese surgeons who implanted an artificial brain stimulating device to former Russian commander in Chechnya Anatoliy Romanov who is still in coma after an assassination attempt. "A new combat of General Romanov", the headline reads.

The newspaper also comments on the appointment of Yevgeniy Primakov as the new Russian Foreign minister. "The Russian policy on the international arena

must change... It has to become if not tough, then stricter", it says.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA carries its own reports on the Kizlyar tragedy.

Besides, the newspaper analyses the attempts of the last State Duma to streamline allowances to the military and says there was little effect.

FINANCIAL IZVESTIYA analyses the situation on international currency exchanges. Experts of the Antwerp dealing centre believe "currency storms" have bypassed Russia. 1995 was dominated by trade war between the USA and Japan, they say.

From January 1, 1996 new residence registration rules are introduced in Russia which guarantee the freedom of travel. Lawyer Evgeny Danilov comments on the problem.

TRUD publishes an interview with Oleg Lysyagin, the head of the legal department of the Russian penitentiary branch of the Interior ministry, who says that the situation in investigation prisons is very alarming. "The conditions in most of 168 investigation prisons, where some 280 thousand suspects are kept, are beyond any criticism. The prisons are overcrowded by 60 per cent", he said.

Yeltsin Speaks in Paris of His Friend Mitterrand

*LD1001221896 Moscow Russian Public Television
First Channel Network in Russian
2045 GMT 10 Jan 96*

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] As we know, President Boris Yeltsin left by air for France this afternoon. Our correspondent was among those who met President Yeltsin at the airport in Paris. We have just received a report from him. This is what Boris Yeltsin said about his trip to France for the funeral of Francois Mitterrand.

[Begin Yeltsin recording] I deeply respected him, of course, and called him my friend. I have lost a friend. For this reason I cannot fail to pay my final respects to my friend, who was a politician on the world scale and a European politician, and had such regard for Russia and me personally. He had a great influence, of course, on my education as a president, although I am already by no means of school age. However difficult it might perhaps be for me at present, I nevertheless decided to fly here and pay my last respects to my friend, Mr. Mitterrand — Francois Mitterrand. [end recording]

President Yeltsin To Meet Kohl, Chirac in Paris

*LD1101055196 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0535 GMT 11 Jan 96*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Kalmykov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PARIS January 11 (ITAR-TASS) — It is a day of national mourning in France on Thursday. A church service is to be held at the Notre Dame Cathedral at 11.00 local time (1000 GMT) in memory of French ex-President Francois Mitterrand, who died on January 8.

The mourning ceremony in Paris will be attended by the Heads of State and Government from tens of countries. Among them will be President Boris Yeltsin of Russia, Chancellor Helmut Kohl of Germany, Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez of Spain, Prime Minister John Major of Britain, Vice-President Albert Gore of the United States, as well as Cuban leader Fidel Castro, President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine, President Geidar Aliyev of Azerbaijan, U.N. Secretary-General Butros Butros-Ghali, NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana, and other dignitaries.

Upon arriving in Paris by air, the Russian President, in response to a question from the ITAR-TASS correspondent, said he came here to pay a tribute of respect to his friend and politician of world renown.

"Mr. Mitterrand treated very attentively and cordially the developments in Russia, supported our democratic

reforms not only in words but in deeds as well. He had a great formational influence on me in my capacity as President," Yeltsin emphasized.

Simultaneously with the mourning ceremony in the capital, a funeral of Francois Mitterrand is to take place at Jarnac, his hometown in south-western France. Only the family members and the closest friends will attend the funeral in keeping with the will of the deceased.

It has become known to the ITAR-TASS correspondent from well-informed French and Russian diplomatic sources that Boris Yeltsin, apart from attending the mourning ceremony, is to have a number of meetings. Since morning, he will be guest of French President Jacques Chirac at the Elysee Palace. The Russian also expected to meet with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Moscow, France Discuss Mutual Relations, Chechnya

*LD1101115996 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1149 GMT 11 Jan 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PARIS, January 11 (ITAR-TASS) — The presidents of Russia and France, Boris Yeltsin and Jacques Chirac today agreed to set up a group at the prime-ministerial level to handle and solve any major problems arising in bilateral relations.

An announcement about the agreement was made by Russian President Boris Yeltsin after a meeting with Jacques Chirac here today.

"We discussed our bilateral economic relations and recognised that they do not fully conform to our agreement reached during my visit to Paris in October 1995," Boris Yeltsin said.

It was because of this that the Presidents agreed to establish a French-Russian group, similar to the Russian-American Gore-Chernomyrdin group, to make cooperation between Paris and Moscow "more productive."

The group will comprise French Prime Minister Alain Juppe and Russian government head Viktor Chernomyrdin. According to President Yeltsin, the Juppe-Chernomyrdin group will meet, like the Gore-Chernomyrdin group, twice a year alternately in France and Russia, to discuss "the most global questions."

"It will provide a powerful impulse needed because, as we have found out, the existing working groups 'are just marking time'. They accumulate apparently good materials, but then nothing actually comes out of it," the Russian President said.

Informed sources told ITAR-TASS that the Juppe-Chernomyrdin group will meet for the first time during Alain Juppe's official visit to Moscow in February 1996.

Yeltsin said he also discussed with the French President preparations for the Moscow nuclear security summit of the leaders of seven industrialised countries and Russia.

The Russian President said Russia as the host is carrying out "very serious preparations" for the summit which is due to take place in Moscow on April 19-20. "The entire Group of Eight will discuss on equitable basis problems (of nuclear safety), and that will express attitude to Russia," Yeltsin said.

According to diplomatic sources, Yeltsin confirmed that Russia was prepared to sign a treaty on a complete nuclear test ban.

Responding to a question about the crisis in Kizlyar, Yeltsin declared that Russia would withdraw troops from Chechnya as soon as an accord on the non-use of arms was achieved at the current "peace negotiations inside Chechnya." After the troops are withdrawn, "only police forces will remain to maintain public order in Chechnya," the Russian President said.

President Yeltsin is in Paris to attend a ceremony commemorating ex-President Francois Mitterrand, whose funeral took place today in Jarnac, southwest France. During his meeting with President Jacques Chirac, Yeltsin expressed Russia's condolences to the French people in connection with the passing away of the country's ex-President.

Yeltsin, Chirac Address Moscow's Role in G-7

*LD1101143896 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1430 GMT 11 Jan 96*

[By Nikita Yermakov, Mikhail Kalmykov, Igor Shchyogolev]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] PARIS, January 11 (ITAR-TASS) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin and French President Jacques Chirac at their today's meeting discussed, among other things, the relations between Russia and G7 nations.

The French president's spokesperson Catherine Colonna quoted Yeltsin as saying that Russia seeks to join the G7 club of industrialised nations to make it G8.

Chirac, who is to chair a regular G7 summit meeting ahead in Lyon, said there had been an evolution in the question of Russia's membership.

He said he wanted Russia's broad involvement in the Lyon summit due on June 27-29.

The form of Russia's participation remains to be determined, Chirac said.

The French president called on Yeltsin to take every step to make successful the summit of the G8 on nuclear security, due in Moscow on April 19-20.

Yeltsin Leaves Paris After Mitterrand Service

*LD1101144896 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1440 GMT 11 Jan 96*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Nikita Yermakov, Mikhail Kalmykov, Igor Shcheglov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Paris, 11 Jan (ITAR-TASS) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin today left Paris after taking part in the memorial ceremonies for former French President Francois Mitterrand.

Karasin on Chechen Situation, Foreign Policy Issues

*LD1101161196 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 1400 GMT 11 Jan 96*

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] The situation of the hostages who are in the hands of the Chechen fighters was discussed today by Grigoriy Karasin, director of the information and press department of the Foreign Ministry, in a meeting with journalists. Grigoriy Karasin said that almost all countries have noted the inhuman and extremely cruel nature of the Chechen fighters in Dagestan. Then Karasin dwelt on international aspects of Russian policy and confirmed that the appointment of Yevgeniy Primakov as foreign minister will not change the foreign policy of the Russian state. The important factor in Russia's peacekeeping efforts in the Balkans is the ban on the use of force. The co-sponsor activities of the Foreign Ministry in the Middle Eastern settlement are continuing. Karasin then spoke about the crash of the Russian aircraft in Zaire. On 10 January the commission of the department of the Transport Ministry flew out there. The Russian Foreign Ministry is maintaining its contacts with the pilots and generally is in the control of the situation. The situation around the Russian crew held by the Taleban in Afghanistan is more difficult to control.

[Begin Karasin recording] Today I have to say that the Taleban have not yet given any definite reply on a date for the release of the aircraft and crew. We are waiting for this reply. I want to stress once more that many rounds of talks have been held with them. We are ready for any contacts at any time. [end recording] [Video shows Karasin's news conference]

Pakistani Citizen Reportedly Prepared Kizlyar Raid
LD0901113396 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 1100 GMT 9 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Well-informed sources in Grozny's law enforcement bodies have told an ITAR-TASS correspondent that a Pakistani mercenary is possibly among the Chechen fighters. According to them, the citizen of Pakistan, an ethnic Chechen known under the name Fakh, prepared the plan for the rebels' military operation in Kizlyar. It has emerged that prior to his arrival in Chechnya for combat operations, he was fighting the Soviet troops in Afghanistan for five years.

Pakistani Involvement Not Confirmed

LD1101161996 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1415 GMT 11 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Jan 11 (INTERFAX) — The Russian Foreign Ministry does not have information on the presence of Pakistani nationals in the group of Chechen gunmen who captured hostages in the Dagestan town of Kizlyar, Director of the Third Asian Department of the Russian Foreign Ministry Yuriy Kotov told INTERFAX on Thursday.

According to him, the Foreign Ministry also cannot confirm another report to the effect that some Chechen militants who attacked Kizlyar had undergone military training in camps on the territory of Pakistan.

"Since the very beginning of the conflict in Chechnya, Pakistan has officially said that it does not train Chechen militants on its territory, and moreover, does not send its citizens to this republic of the Russian Federation," said the diplomat.

Speaking about the situation with the Russian pilots detained in Kandahar by the Afghan opposition movement of Taleban, Kotov said with regret that the Talebs are dragging out time and had not yet set the date for the release of the Russian citizens, nor the date of the possible final meeting with Russian representatives.

He did not say for how long this situation could continue. "We continue working with the Talebs, we are in contact with them, but we have no clear answer to the main question," said the diplomat.

Press secretary of the director of the Foreign Intelligence Service Tatyana Samolis told INTERFAX on Thursday that Russian intelligence together with other departments is taking an active part in the efforts to release the Russian nationals detained in Kandahar.

"We use our channels and partners' contacts both in the countries of the region and outside it," she said.

Georgia Reportedly Prepared To Help in Kizlyar Crisis

LD0901205296 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1900 GMT 9 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] And finally about the reaction to the Kizlyar events in Georgia, which is Dagestan's neighbor. Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze voiced his deep indignation and condemned the terrorists. Irakli Musashvili reports from Tbilisi.

[Musashvili] On Shevardnadze's personal instruction, the Ministry of State Security, the Defense Ministry, and the Interior Ministry have urgently strengthened the Russian-Georgian state border in the section adjacent to Chechnya and Dagestan to prevent armed terrorists from infiltrating Georgia. Lieutenant General Shota Kviraia, Georgia's security minister, sent a telephone message to Mikhail Barsukov, director of the Federal Security Service, stating readiness to assist Russia and to send the ministry's special units to Kizlyar. Kviraia is ready to head these units personally. All of Georgia's power structures are prepared to send formations to help Russia at any moment to punish the terrorists appropriately and release the hostages.

Deployment of Peacekeeping Force to Bosnia Postponed

LD1001114696 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1138 GMT 10 Jan 96

[By Andrey Naryshkin]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] ZAGREB, January 10 (ITAR-TASS) — The transfer of a Russian peacekeeping brigade from Russia to Northern Bosnia, scheduled for today, has been postponed until January 12-13, a spokesman for the Russian Embassy in Zagreb told Tass.

Russian diplomats do not rule out a possibility that the redeployment of the Russian battalion of "blue berets" from Sarajevo to the Vostok sector, Croatia, may begin today. At the same time, a spokesman for the Zagreb headquarters of the "blue berets" said that the problem had not been settled until the last moment, and additional instructions were expected here from the U.N. headquarters in New York. The thing is that, according to plans of the U.N. Force Command, whose term of office expires on January 15, the Russian battalion from Sarajevo should have been sent to Russia. The Russian side is of a different opinion. Seeking to avoid additional spendings on the transportation of troops and armaments, it intends to transfer the Sarajevo battalion to East Slavonia to beef up the Russian peacekeeping unit, which is deployed there.

The Russian side has some reason: the strength of the East Slavonic contingent (it is now made up of the Russian and Belgian battalions) will be considerably increased, by all appearances, and it would hardly be a wise decision first to move the troops to Russia and from there back to Croatia. The Command of the U.N. Force, which has received no instructions on this issue, has already announced that it has deprived the Sarajevo battalion of its allowances and will not help with its redeployment. In its turn, Russian battalion No. 2 announced that their food reserves would be enough for them for two months, and they had enough fuel for a 300-km march. Thus, from the practical point of view, nothing hampers the transfer of the battalion, but some formal and legal problems may emerge.

'Confrontation' Between U.S., Iran Said Peaking
NC0901195596 *Moscow Voice of Russia World Service in Persian* 1600 GMT 8 Jan 96

[Commentary by Sergey Viktorov]

[FBIS Translated Text] It is no secret that for about 17 years there has been an international political and diplomatic confrontation between Iran and the United States. The tension between the two countries has not (?reduced). There are no diplomatic relations between Tehran and Washington, thus the sole document that can be considered a type of bilateral agreement is the Algiers Declaration signed in 1981.

This declaration solved the problem of the hostages who were being held in the former American Embassy in the Iranian capital. Interesting that at the time U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, then assistant secretary of state, signed the Algiers Declaration on America's behalf. Now that President Bill Clinton's administration and Congress will sign a bill on anti-Iranian moves, with \$20 million allocated to this, Tehran has decided to review the Algiers Declaration. In addition to a decision on the hostages, several other articles were included in this declaration.

According to Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, with the approval of its plans for anti-Iranian moves, Washington has violated its commitments in the document. 'Ali Akbar Velayati has said that in this document the United States undertook not to interfere, either directly or indirectly or through political or military means, in Iran's domestic affairs.

In view of the Iranian foreign minister's comments, Tehran has taken preparatory steps to respond. It is not yet clear what steps have been taken. Everything has been limited to political and diplomatic steps. According to the U.S. news agency AP, Iran last week referred

to UN Secretary General Butrus-Ghali and described America's plans as state terrorism.

Iranian Majles Speaker 'Ali Akbar Nateq-Nuri has called on Majles deputies to approve a budget for anti-American acts. But [words indistinct] radical spirits are stronger in their reaction to Washington. According to AFP [as heard], several thousand radicals have vowed that if America implements its anti-Iranian plans, they will inflict blows to U.S. interests worldwide.

Generally speaking, the confrontation between Iran and the United States is peaking again and the intensity of the two countries' [words indistinct] and the tone of their political-diplomatic statements will not be reduced soon.

Commentary Views Russian Participation in KEDO Work

SK1001102096 *Moscow Voice of Russia World Service in Korean* 1200 GMT 8 Jan 96

[Commentary by station commentator (Leonid Krichevskiy) from the "Today's World" program; first two paragraphs are announcer's introduction]

[FBIS Translated Text] Aleksandr Panov, Russian vice foreign minister for Asia-Pacific affairs, has said that Russia, too, would be able to participate in the work of the Korean Peninsula Energy Development Organization [KEDO], which was formed to provide light-water reactors to the DPRK.

In connection with this, our station's commentator (Leonid states:

KEDO was formed early last year. This international organization was inaugurated to implement the DPRK-U.S. Agreed Framework, which was signed in Geneva in January 1994.

The essence of the DPRK-U.S. Agreed Framework is to provide safer light-water reactors to the DPRK in return for the DPRK's freezing graphite-moderated reactors. The Geneva talks lasted for several months while gradually solving difficult problems. Russian-made light-water reactors were mentioned repeatedly in the course of the talks. However, regrettably, this proposal was not adopted due to financial reasons. Eventually, it was decided that light-water reactors called a model improved with U.S. technology and design would be provided.

Since KEDO was formed, this international organization has become the DPRK's partner. KEDO agreed to pay at least \$4.5 billion.

The DPRK and KEDO delegates reached a final agreement in New York in December 1995. KEDO also

agreed to pay for the construction of infrastructures necessary for the light-water reactors. However, the issue of who will carry out the project of modernizing the transmission lines has not been resolved yet. KEDO has proposed finding foreign partners that would carry out this project.

The recent contacts among Russia, the United States, and the ROK show that the United States and the ROK hope that Russia will participate in KEDO's work. And, Moscow, too, affirmatively assesses last year's New York agreement.

This bilateral agreement will contribute to not only resolving the nuclear problem on the Korean peninsula, but also easing tension there.

In connection with Russia's participation in KEDO's work, the Russian vice foreign minister said: After extensively examining how important a role Russia can play, Moscow will announce whether it will participate in KEDO's work.

Apart from this, Russia seeks to hasten the resumption of contacts between the North and South of the Korean peninsula by making efforts on its own to ease tension on the peninsula.

Ukraine Blamed for Black Sea Fleet Transfers Delay

MM1101094896 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA

in Russian 10 Jan 96 p 3

[Report by Aleksandr Pasyakin and Andrey Gavrilenko: "Hard To Create But Harder To Divide; Division of Black Sea Fleet Continues"]

[FBIS Translated Text] "The work of the Black Sea Fleet and Ukrainian Navy commission to divide the Black Sea Fleet would make considerably better headway if the Ukrainian side were economically ready to accept the establishments which are being handed over to it," Vice Admiral Gennadiy Suchkov, first deputy commander of the Black Sea Fleet, stated at a routine session of the commission for the fleet's division, of which he is chairman. A number of Black Sea Fleet establishments are not being accepted by the Ukrainian side. Thus, to this day not a single person from the future crews has visited the search and rescue service ships Taman and Baskunchak which the Ukrainian Navy was to have accepted before 30 December 1995. There is simply no one to whom to hand over the ships.

The question of the acceptance of the military townships' housing stock which is being handed over to the control of the Ukrainian side is not being resolved. Right now of all the 117 military townships envisaged for transfer to the Ukrainian Navy only 42 have been ac-

cepted. The others are not being accepted. It emerges from official explanations that this is "because of the lack of a decision by the Crimea Supreme Council on the acceptance of the establishments which are being handed over to it and also because of the lack of servicing personnel in the Ukrainian Navy."

Gennadiy Suchkov noted that according to a number of accords reached with Ukraine the Black Sea Fleet is financing the socioconsumer needs of the military townships' population only for an indicated period (that is through 15 January 1996), seeking the necessary funds in the fleet's meager budget. The commission session stressed that responsibility for the disruption of the deadline for accepting and handing over the Black Sea Fleet establishments and all possible adverse consequences of this rests wholly on the Ukrainian side.

It was the Ukrainian mass media, for instance, which unjustifiably accused the Russian side of alleged violations when handing over the Crimean naval base. In particular the Black Sea Fleet command has repeatedly had to deny rumors that seamen and their families cast to the tyranny of fate remain in the military settlements handed over to Ukraine. The Black Sea Fleet press center has reported that the morale in the military subunits remains calm. Here the overwhelming majority of military seamen are expressing the desire to continue to serve in the Black Sea Fleet. And only about 100 officers and warrant officers have so far signed a request to be transferred to the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

Presidential Spokesman: Primakov New Foreign Minister

AU0901153996 Paris AFP in English

1523 GMT 9 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Moscow, Jan 9 (AFP) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin appointed Yevgeny Primakov, currently head of the counter-intelligence service, as foreign minister Tuesday [9 January], Russian television reported, citing a presidential spokesman.

The Kremlin would not confirm the report.

Kozyrev's Career Seen Ending in 'Lost Opportunity'

MM0901161296 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian

10 Jan 96 p 3

[Article by Maksim Yusin: "Minister Kozyrev's Lost Opportunity"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Andrey Kozyrev's career is over. Although you would think that a deputy's seat would give the former minister plenty of scope for activity. But that is only at first glance. The harsh truth

is that nobody wants Andrey Vladimirovich Kozyrev today: Neither the communists, nor the "patriots," nor the democrats, nor the "party of power."

For a veteran approaching pension age, such a finale to a career would hardly be tragic. But for a 44-year-old and, moreover, very ambitious person it will be much harder to endure political oblivion.

Fate has given Kozyrev a unique opportunity. Could anyone have imagined six years ago that the modest, quiet-voiced, shy-mannered chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry International Organizations Administration would soar to such dizzy heights, becoming head of the foreign policy department of a great power overnight?

Kozyrev's elevation took place largely by chance. Boris Yeltsin, when reinforcing the Russian Foreign Ministry in 1990 in the hope of making it a counterweight to the Soviet one, tried to attract some well-known diplomat to the ministry leadership. But some prominent figures in the Union Foreign Ministry refused, while Yeltsin rejected other candidates. The choice eventually fell on Andrey Kozyrev, and he, to the skeptical smiles of his former colleagues, crossed over from a spacious office on Smolensk Square to the modest Russian Foreign Ministry building. After the breakup of the Soviet Union Boris Yeltsin faced a difficult choice: whom to entrust with the leadership of the unified Foreign Ministry — the unknown but devoted head of the Russian Foreign Ministry, or one of the acclaimed diplomats of the Soviet school of whose loyalty the president had serious doubts.

After some hesitation, Yeltsin made the decision — in January 1992 Kozyrev moved to Eduard Shevardnadze's office.

The first two years of Andrey Vladimirovich's work in his new post were the summit of his diplomatic career. Despite the hatred of Khasbulatov's Supreme Soviet and the Congress of People's Deputies, or maybe because of it, Kozyrev became the darling of the democratic media. Elsewhere in the world he was regarded as the symbol of the new Russian diplomacy, which had hinted at renunciation of confrontation with the West, reliance on the peaceful resolution of conflicts in the CIS, and the principled rejection of dictatorial regimes, even those that were friends and clients of the Soviet Union.

But even then there were signs of one of the minister's main qualities which later was his undoing — an exceptional mildness and amenability and an inability to say "no" to anyone, and in particular to the president, beside whom Kozyrev always looked like a timid student currying favor. However, the minister was

unable to show firmness even at those moments when Boris Nikolayevich's own honor was at stake. In April 1992 during an official dinner in the Azerbaijani city of Ganja one of the local leaders permitted himself such crude expressions about Yeltsin that the diplomats accompanying the minister and the journalists who were at the same table put their knives and forks down, ready the next moment to get up and leave the room with the head of the delegation. But Kozyrev continued to sit there unperturbed, listening to the insults....

In spring 1993 the minister unexpectedly broke off a tour of five Asian states on which the settlement of the Tajik conflict depended. After visiting Tehran, Islamabad, and Dushanbe, Kozyrev did not get as far as Tashkent and Ashgabat. The reason was a call from Yeltsin demanding the minister's immediate return to Moscow to attend the president's annual meeting with ambassadors. Kozyrev could not summon up the strength to object and to convince Yeltsin that there is no sense in breaking off a tour for the sake of a second-rate protocol event and that it is not a good idea to offend Presidents Karimov and Niyazov, who had been ready to meet with the Russian delegation.

The turning point in Kozyrev's career was December 1993, when after Zhirinovskiy's election victory the president demanded that a more "patriotic" foreign policy be pursued. Kozyrev became the acquiescent agent of the Kremlin's will. Saddam Husayn, whom a year earlier the head of Russian diplomacy had called an "international hooligan," turned into a "wise statesman." Radovan Karadzic and Ratko Mladic, who only yesterday were classed as war criminals, began to be presented as all but innocent victims of Western aggression. Kozyrev also learned a new language in relations with the CIS countries, threatening to use force to protect the Russian-speaking population — totally inappropriately, as a rule.

By obediently delivering someone else's text and someone else's ideas, the minister grew accustomed to seeing himself as a secondary figure who need not be taken much notice of, and on whom, strictly speaking, nothing really depends. By prolonging his presence in the ministerial post for two years, Andrey Vladimirovich most likely kissed good-bye to his future political career. From December 1993 to January 1996 he looked so unconvincing and so often aroused feelings of sympathy and compassion that in the end he lost the respect both of his opponents in the "communist-patriot" camp, and of his former democrat friends, and of his colleagues in the president's entourage.

In the years he spent as head of the Foreign Ministry Kozyrev failed to become a politician in his own right.

In this sense Kozyrev was the complete opposite of his predecessor in Smolensk Square, Eduard Shevardnadze. At critical moments the latter knew how to raise his voice to Gorbachev and impose his own view on him. In August 1990, when Iraq's invasion of Kuwait became known, Gorbachev did not want to condemn the aggression unequivocally and come out against Saddam Husayn along with the West. It was only thanks to the firmness displayed by Shevardnadze, who threatened to cause a furor and to resign, that Moscow then took a worthy stance and did not end up in international isolation.

There was no similar case in Kozyrev's career. Even when he realized the president was making a mistake, he could not make up his mind to say so out loud.

A politician should know when to resign and how to do so with dignity. In the past two years fate gave Kozyrev several such opportunities. He did not take any of them. Even in October last year, when Yeltsin publicly humiliated him, the minister, as if expecting a miracle, continued to cling convulsively to his post. The agonizing death throes that lasted two and a half months were a sad finale to a career that started so promisingly for the first foreign minister of post-Soviet Russia.

Grachev Speaks on NATO Expansion, CFE, Army Reform

*MM0801125596 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA
in Russian 6 Jan 96 p 1*

[Report by Grigoriy Nesmyanovich and Aleksandr Pelts: "Strengthening Common Security"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Army General Pavel Grachev, who is in Ukraine on a working visit, addressed students at the Ukrainian Armed Forces Academy. In his 40-minute speech he dwelt on aspects of the present-day military-political situation in the world and problems of European security and the military security of the Commonwealth states, and also expounded the main avenues of organizational development of the Russian Federation Armed Forces.

The ending of global confrontation, the defense minister noted, lessened the probability of the outbreak of large-scale war, but the world did not become more stable as a result. The development of the new system of international relations is proceeding in complex conditions. The contradictions which were formerly associated with the global confrontation between the two systems have come to the forefront: Interstate, international, and interethnic contradictions are intensifying, leading to dangerous crises and armed conflicts.

Pavel Grachev went on to stress that the Russian Federation consistently advocates the formation of a new, nonbloc system of collective security. First and foremost in Europe. Russia upholds the line of creating a European security system with the leading role played by the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). That would make it possible to prevent a possible new division of Europe, remove the old barriers, and give all European states equal security guarantees. But this approach does not always meet with proper understanding from everyone. At present, polemics have flared up in Europe not so much over the future shape of the security system on the continent, as over the problem of NATO expansion.

The Russian side, Pavel Grachev said, has carefully analyzed the document entitled "Study on NATO Enlargement." However, we have not found in it a convincing motivation for the proposed expansion. For instance, such key questions as ways of strengthening universal security, the OSCE's role in maintaining stability, and measures to counteract the emergence of new dividing lines in Europe are dealt with only in the most general terms in this document. At the same time the idea of the possibility of foreign armed forces and even nuclear weapons appearing on the territory of the bloc's possible new members can be traced quite distinctly.

Our country is prepared to cooperate with various countries, with all the states of Europe, and has no imperial designs or aggressive intentions of any kind. The real transformation of NATO, the Russian defense minister stressed, must lie not in the expansion of the alliance's zone of responsibility, but in its transformation into one of the instruments of a pan-European system of collective security. Army General Pavel Grachev went on to dwell on the tasks of the emerging CIS system of collective security. The basis of this security system is the unconditional recognition that following the breakup of the Soviet Union the CIS countries have their own vital interests which they must deal with by all possible means, including military means if necessary. The Commonwealth's main concern on questions of security today is the settlement of conflicts in the post-Soviet area. Through the efforts of the peacekeeping forces of Russia, Ukraine, and a number of CIS countries, in conjunction with international organizations, some work has been done in localizing the conflicts in Georgia, Tajikistan, and Azerbaijan. This activity has resulted in the cessation of active hostilities in South Ossetia, the Dniester region, Abkhazia, and Nagorno-Karabakh. Analyzing the presently existing and possible forms of military cooperation among the CIS countries, the Russian defense minister noted the processes that have taken place in Russian-Ukrainian relations. At a meeting with

the defense minister in Sochi last November, a decision was made to step up Russian-Ukrainian contacts in the military sphere. Suffice it to say, he noted, that we have signed 26 documents. The most important of them included the Plan for Bilateral Cooperation Between the Defense Ministries of Russia and Ukraine for 1996. A plan and timetable have been approved for the handover of particular facilities, armaments, equipment, and property of the Black Sea Fleet to the Armed Forces of Russia and Ukraine. A mutually advantageous consensus has been reached on the acquisition of strategic missile complexes and other complexes from Ukraine.

Participation in the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe [CFE] is in the common interests of our states, Army General Pavel Grachev noted. Russia has fulfilled its commitments under this treaty as regards the reduction of conventional arms. However, certain very important problems that have arisen in the political arena since the breakup of the USSR and certain economic and social difficulties have forced us to raise with our partners the question of the need to change the approach to the problem of flank restrictions. I would like to note, Army General Grachev stressed, that settling the flank problem is first and foremost a question of ensuring the viability of the CFE Treaty, not merely a question of meeting Russia's concerns.

Concerning the tasks of the Russian Federation Armed Forces, he noted that the main aim of the organizational development of Russia's Armed Forces is the creation and development of troops capable of ensur-

ing the defense of the country's independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. He stressed that complex social conditions, especially financial conditions, are not hampering the process of reform of the Armed Forces. The Russian Armed Forces are currently tackling the tasks of providing amenities for groupings of forces withdrawn from the territory of eight states. More than 700,000 servicemen have been redeployed. Counting civilian personnel and servicemen's families, that is about 1.2 million people. More than 40,000 items of military hardware have also been moved. No country in the world has seen anything on a similar scale. The Russian Armed Forces have been reduced by more than 1 million, and as of today number 1.7 million servicemen. Concerning the unresolved problems, Army General Pavel Grachev noted that the problem of manning the Armed Forces with servicemen on the basis of the draft has not yet been entirely resolved. We expect the level of manning of the Armed Forces to be increased to 80-85 percent as a result of the adoption of the federal law on the draft.

On 5 January, together with members of the official delegation of Ukraine and the United States, the Russian defense minister visited the region of the settlement of Krivoye Ozero, roughly 300 km from Kiev. Here the blowing up of an ICBM launch silo is taking place. When the operation to destroy it is completed, a press conference is planned, at which both [as published] ministers will speak.

Political Issues

Yeltsin Orders 'Resolute Actions' Against Chechen Terrorists

LD0901121696 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1204 GMT 9 Jan 96

[By Andrey Shtorkh]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW January 9 (ITAR-TASS) — President Boris Yeltsin demanded from his "power ministers" to take "most resolute" measures to stop Chechen terrorists who are holding some 1,000 hostages in the Dagestani town of Kizlyar and entrusted the coordination of the task to Security minister Mikhail Barsukov, according to the presidential spokesman.

Sergey Medvedev told reporters that "the talk was tough" at an urgent meeting called up by the president on Tuesday and that the head of state "demanded from participants in the meeting the most organized and resolute actions to cut short the armed provocations of bandits in Kizlyar".

The spokesman added that Yeltsin had also ordered to thoroughly investigate why the attack became possible and report the results.

The meeting was attended by the so-called "power" ministers and "each of them faced serious remarks as, in the final end, it is they who are responsible for the events", Medvedev said.

"The president demanded from each of them to adopt most quick and resolute actions to neutralise the bandits", he said.

The Kizlyar tragedy was then discussed by Yeltsin at a meeting with Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin.

It also focused on personnel issues, the social policy of the government and preparations for the first meeting of the new Russian parliament.

Yeltsin: 'Bandits' Must Answer for Actions

LD1001162096 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1613 GMT 10 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Jan 10 (INTERFAX) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin responded to correspondents' questions Wednesday after introducing newly-appointed Foreign Minister Yevgeniy Primakov to the ministry's board.

In response to an INTERFAX question about the Chechen militants' seizure of hostages in Kizlyar, the president said they developed a strategy to overcome the situation Tuesday at a meeting with the heads of key security and defense ministries. "We decided that the troops would block Kizlyar on the outer circle. They

would just block the town and abstain from combat operations. The bandits could not be allowed to leave one at a time; they had to answer for their action," said the president.

It was also decided to encircle the hospital and start negotiations with the militants, he said.

Further events proved the correctness of "our decision to enable the Dagestan authorities hold negotiations with the militants," said Yeltsin. The inter-ethnic relations in the Caucasus are complicated. "Chechens craftily intruded the Avar territory, and the Avars warned they will kill every family of the militants if something happens," said Yeltsin. Four rallies of protest were held in Dagestan, and Dagestan leaders started negotiations with the militants. "The militants had to conduct themselves more soberly," said the president.

He said he controlled the situation day and night. According to Yeltsin, the militants violated the agreement and did not free the hostages near the Dagestan-Chechen border. "Bandits are bandits, one cannot trust them, and their vehicles are being accompanied by a sufficient number of interior and specialized units. This is being done to prevent violence against the hostages. The situation will develop in a different way if the militants do not free the hostages," said the president.

The situation in Kizlyar is tranquil, houses are being checked to find militants who may be hiding there, said Yeltsin.

If the situation develops as it does now, the president can leave for Paris to attend the funeral of his friend — late French President Francois Mitterrand. Yeltsin said that Mitterrand rendered great assistance to Russian reforms and democratic transformations.

Commenting on the newly-appointed foreign minister, Yeltsin said he is absolutely sure of Primakov. "He knows well the international job, he is well received by diplomats, and, I think, he will do a lot to raise Russian authority in the international community," said the president.

As it was reported, Boris Yeltsin signed a decree to nominate Vyacheslav Trubnikov director of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service. In response to an INTERFAX question Wednesday, the president said he personally knows Trubnikov.

"No Russian leaders visited the Foreign Intelligence Service before me. I was a frequent visitor of it. I watched Trubnikov, and noted he is a highly-skilled professional with a high authority amongst intelligence staffers," said the president.

Trubnikov used to be first deputy director of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service.

In response to an INTERFAX question, the president gave to understand more government reshuffling is ahead.

Commenting on ex-Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, the president said he will be able to participate in international life on a private basis.

"Our policy in Yugoslavia was not entirely clear, and a disbalance in Russia's policy between East and West occurred," Yeltsin said of Kozyrev's mistakes as foreign minister.

Yeltsin Decides To Hand Talks to Dagestan

LD1001142296 Moscow Russian Public Television
First Channel Network in Russian
1200 GMT 10 Jan 96

[Report by Andrey Murtazin; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] While planning the terrorist operation in Kizlyar, Dudayev and his entourage envisaged two possible developments of events. If the federal forces began to storm the hospital, this would inevitably lead to large numbers of casualties and Moscow would find it had a new enemy in the shape of the people of Dagestan. If the federal forces refrained from storming the building, Raduyev and his gang would leave Kizlyar in line with the Budennovsk scenario. The decision was taken at a meeting with the president on 9 January to seal off Kizlyar and contain the terrorists, and head of Dagestan Magomed Magomedov was instructed to conduct negotiations with the terrorists. The president told journalists today why this decision was taken.

[begin Yeltsin recording] The Chechens invaded Avar territory, they went to the Avars, the Avars immediately warned that we will kill all of your families whatever happens here. So it was advantageous and tactically correct to hold talks not at a federal level with Moscow but with forces from Dagestan; Magomedov, head of the Dagestan Republic; the chairman of the government, and others, with our Interior Ministry and the security services also involved. In actual fact, the Dagestani authorities did this very well. I wrote out the appropriate orders, that Dagestan is instructed to conduct negotiations, and they immediately established contact with them. It needs to be said that several approaches were made, there were four demonstrations of power by the Dagestanis — protests, demonstrations of protest against this invasion by the Chechens and this act of terrorism. It should be said that the bandit group started to act a little more calmly after that. [end recording]

The bandits promised to release the hostages as soon as the convoy crosses the Chechen border. The president envisages various options for the development of events, depending on the situation.

[begin Yeltsin recording] If they release the hostages, that is one development of events. If they do not release the hostages, then a different operation will be planned. [end recording]

We may discover how it ends in the next few hours. [video shows hostages in hospital, gunmen, and Yeltsin at meeting and addressing journalists]

Yeltsin Orders Execution of Rebel Leaders

MK1001092196 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA
in Russian 10 Jan 96 p 1

[Report by Vadim Yegorov: "Yeltsin Has Ordered Liquidation of Dudayev and Basayev"]

[FBIS Translated Text] According to informed sources, Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin has issued orders to work out and carry out a special operation to destroy [spetsialnaya operatsiya po unichtozheniyu] Chechen rebel leaders Shamil Basayev and Salman Raduyev. Analogous measures are also being planned with respect to the "president of the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria," Dzhokhar Dudayev. The operation will be carried out jointly by the Federal Security Service and the Defense Ministry. Experts believe that the success of the planned action will primarily depend on how accurately secret agents and technical means can establish the whereabouts of Dudayev and Basayev and track their movements. For this purpose, in particular, it is planned to use aerial photo reconnaissance and the electronic surveillance system of the Main Intelligence Directorate.

Proceedings Instituted Against Militants

LD0901160796 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1536 GMT 9 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 9 Jan (ITAR-TASS) — Today, the office of the procurator general of the Russian Federation instituted criminal proceedings for crimes punishable under four articles of the Criminal Code — banditism, terrorism, hostage taking, and actions leading to people's death. The criminal case has been taken on by a joint investigation group of the Russian Federation procurator general's office and the procurator's office of the Republic of Dagestan. ITAR-TASS was told this at the Public Relations Center of the Russian procurator general's office.

Volkskiy Calls on Yeltsin To End War

*LD0601175496 Moscow NTV in Russian
1600 GMT 6 Jan 96*

[From the "Segodnya" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Today, Christmas Eve, IZVESTIYA has published an appeal to the president from 100 representatives of the intelligentsia of the Russian Federation. They call upon him to put a stop to the Chechen war. The appeal says that everyone can see how senseless and unpopular this war is. Gudermes, Chechnya's second largest town, has been destroyed; the third and fourth are to come, and how many more cases are needed to prove how hopeless it is to use force to resolve the situation? [passage omitted on names of famous actors, writers, directors who have signed]

It should be noted that Arkadiy Volskiy, deputy head of the delegation at the negotiations with the Chechens, is one of the signatories. One of the heads of the federal delegation is thus joining in the criticism of the federal authorities themselves over the Chechen issue. And this criticism is extremely harsh. The appeal states that at the end of the 20th century, when the principle of political settlement is unravelling even such knots as the Middle East problem, the Chechen war is a savage anachronism in the eyes of Russian Federation citizens and of the world community.

Baturin Denies Receiving Proposal for Talks

*LD1001123296 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1225 GMT 10 Jan 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Jan 10 (INTERFAX) — Russian presidential adviser on national security Yuriy Baturin has denied reports by some foreign media that State Duma deputy and leader of the Economic Freedom Party Konstantin Borovoy is urging him to organize direct telephone talks between President Yeltsin and Chechen separatist leader Dzhokhar Dudayev.

"I have not received any proposals of this kind and had no contacts with anyone on the issue," he told INTERFAX Wednesday.

Some of the media have reported that Borovoy is currently at Dudayev's headquarters in Chechnya attempting to initiate direct talks between the rebel leader and the Kremlin.

Yeltsin Appoints Kinelev as New Deputy Premier

*LD0901165296 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1625 GMT 9 Jan 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 9 Jan (ITAR-TASS) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin issued an edict today appointing Vladimir Kinelev, chairman of the Russian Federation State Committee for Higher Education, as deputy chairman of the Russian Government. ITAR-TASS was informed of this by the head of state's press service.

Kinelev's Biographical Information Given

*LD0901180896 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1801 GMT 9 Jan 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, January 9 (ITAR-TASS) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin decreed on Tuesday to appoint Vladimir Kinelev, in charge of higher school, Russia's deputy prime minister, the presidential press service said. [sentence as received]

Kinelev, b. Jan 28, 1945, has been chairing the State Committee for Higher Education since April 1993.

In 1992-1993, he combined the posts of Chairman of the Committee for Higher School at Russia's Ministry of Science, Higher School and Technical Policy and First Deputy Minister of Science and Higher School.

In 1990-1991, he was First Deputy Chairman of the RSFSR State Committee for Science and Higher School.

Prior to 1990, Kinelev worked for the Moscow-based Bauman Higher Technical School he had graduated from as expert in aircraft structural strength. He subsequently held the posts of assistant, professor, and pro-rector for work with students.

Before coming back to the college, he spent five years working for the Central Design Office of Experimental Machine-Building.

Kinelev is doctor of technical sciences, professor, and full member of the International Engineering Academy. He is married and has a daughter.

For services to Russia's higher school development, Kinelev was granted the Decoration of Honour.

Yeltsin Dismisses Privatization Head, Two Ministers

*LD1001122196 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1208 GMT 10 Jan 96*

[By Andrey Shtorkh]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW January 10 (ITAR-TASS) — President Boris Yeltsin dismissed on

Wednesday three government ministers, two of who were elected to the State Duma.

Sergey Belyayev, the head of the State Property committee dealing with privatisation, was relieved of his duties and will head the pro-government Our Home is Russia faction in the Duma.

Nikolay Travkin, the minister without portfolio, will also work in the Duma from now on.

Transport minister Vitaliy Yefimov was dismissed "upon his own request", the presidential press service said.

Yeltsin Appoints Primakov as New Foreign Minister
LD0901184296 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1833 GMT 9 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, January 9 (ITAR-TASS) — President Boris Yeltsin on Tuesday signed a decree appointing Yevgeniy Primakov foreign minister of the Russian Federation, the presidential press service said.

Before the appointment, academician Primakov headed the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service, the foreign branch of the former KGB.

Primakov will replace Andrey Kozyrev who was dismissed by President Yeltsin from the ministerial position in connection with his election to the State Duma (lower house of the Russian legislature).

The report of the press service did not say who will replace Primakov in the chair of Russia's foreign intelligence chief.

Primakov was born on October 29, 1929, in Kiev into the family of employees, and spent his childhood in Tbilisi.

He graduated from the Moscow Institute of Oriental studies in 1953.

After completing a post-graduate course at the Moscow State university in 1956, Primakov worked as a correspondent, desk deputy chief editor and then chief editor at the State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting under the USSR Council of Ministers.

In 1962-1970, he was a news analyst, deputy editor and communist daily Pravda's own correspondent in the Middle East.

In 1970, Primakov changed over to active scientific work. He was appointed deputy director of the USSR Academy of Sciences' Institute of the World Economy and International Relations. He was elected a corre-

sponding member of the Academy in 1974 and academician in 1979.

From 1977 to 1985, Primakov worked as the director of the Institute of Oriental Studies, and headed the Institute of the World Economy and International Relations in 1985-1989.

A Communist Party member since 1959, he was elected an alternate member of the party Central Committee at the 27th party congress and promoted to full membership at the April 1989 Central Committee plenum.

From 1989 to 1991, he chaired the Council of the Union (one of two chambers of the Soviet parliament) and was a member of the USSR Presidential Council and member of the USSR Security Council.

In September 1991, Primakov was appointed the head of KGB's first main directorate (foreign branch) and the first deputy chief of the KGB. In November 1991, he was appointed director of the USSR Central Intelligence Service, and in December — the director of Russia's Foreign Intelligence Service.

Primakov is married with a daughter and grandchildren.

Primakov Not Expected To Alter Policy

MM1101112696 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 11 Jan 96 p 1

[Profile by Mikhail Shchipanov: "The Kind of Man Yevgeniy Primakov Is"]

[FBIS Translated Text] A year ago Yevgeniy Primakov a recognized authority in the field of oriental studies, was already beginning to figure among the ranks of possible successors to Andrey Kozyrev.

However, just a month ago, in the course of numerous interviews marking the jubilee of the INO [expansion unknown], the [KGB] First Main Directorate, and the Foreign Intelligence Service Primakov responded to all questions connected with his transfer to Smolensk Square with a touch of patrician humor: I like my present job too much.

Nevertheless, the academician and recent chief of the Foreign Intelligence Service satisfied the secret criteria of the current times better than any other contender for the post of foreign minister. Above all, having ended a brief purely political career, Primakov belongs to the category of top-notch pure "technocrats." For four years, effectively from the moment it separated from the KGB, he has headed the Foreign Intelligence Service, and for that reason any discussion of the prospects of the present, supposedly interim government has no significance whatsoever for him.

Finally and most importantly, Primakov is not simply a member of that narrow band of first-class professional international affairs specialists. It was the secret department accountable to him which published last year the blueprint of Russia's foreign policy doctrine, with specifications determining its geostrategic priorities and spelling out the external threats. And it was precisely the absence of a conceptual framework in the conduct of the foreign policy course of which Kozyrev's team was accused.

Moreover, a unique — in his way — member of the Council for Foreign Policy, which is required henceforth to coordinate the efforts of the main departments connected with foreign policy, has "come into being," as Yevgeniy Maksimovich will be better able than others to represent the two aspects of diplomacy — the Foreign Ministry and the "operational" side. And this will only improve mutual understanding within the new body. However, the new Council will only increase the head of state's influence on the fashioning of our foreign policy, which is, as it stands, essentially presidential. That is why Yevgeniy Primakov's new appointment has given no grounds for the slightest rumor as regards a possible shift in Russian foreign policy. No recognized "Russia expert" has ventured to make further forecasts about the stiffening of certain Russian positions.

Primakov himself will not even have to waste time "building an image" because, whatever may be true of others, he does not lack experience of conducting delicate diplomatic missions at the highest level. You only have to think of his lightning visit to Baghdad as a "guest" of Saddam Husayn at the start of 1991 in a bid to force the Iraqi leader to make concessions on the eve of Desert Storm. When already head of the Foreign Intelligence Service, Primakov also made foreign trips and held crucial meetings. However, his specific status clearly restricted the scope of his diplomatic maneuvering.

Primakov Adds 'Authority' to Policy

MM1101101096 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
11 Jan 96 pp 1, 3

[Article by Konstantin Eggert and Maksim Yusin: "Academician and Intelligence Officer Yevgeniy Primakov Appointed Foreign Minister"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The appointment of Yevgeniy Maksimovich Primakov as foreign minister is another, possibly not the last, link in the chain of mysteries that effectively go to make up the history of the man who has not been out of the corridors of power for the last 10 years.

There seem to be no end to the questions. Why at such a crucial moment has President Yeltsin appointed a politician who has never been a member of his team? How is one to explain the fact that after the breakup of the USSR Primakov did not share the fate of Mikhail Gorbachev's other darlings, who found themselves shunned by the new authorities, but on the contrary took charge of one of the key special services? What kind of man is he: a liberal, an apparatchik with no particular political bias, or a staunch supporter of a strong state, who is deftly able to camouflage his views?

We will find out the answers to many questions over the coming months. Right now many people at the Foreign Ministry have greeted the news of Primakov's appointment with a sigh of relief. Needless to say, the ideal scenario for Ministry personnel would be the appointment of a young career diplomat, but they are regretably too closely associated with Andrey Kozyrev in the president's eyes. The 66-year old Yevgeniy Primakov is a man of a different generation, a representative of the Soviet apparatus school. He will not cause an allergic reaction among the Duma's Communist majority, and at least at first the deputies may leave the foreign policy department in peace. At the same time the head of the Foreign Ministry is an experienced specialist on international matters and will not, people on Smolensk Square hope, make abrupt moves in his new field.

Diplomats do not see the former director of the Academy of Sciences' Oriental Studies Institute and World Economics and International Relations Institute as an interim figure. "His appointment effectively marks Yeltsin's bid to run in the presidential election," a high-ranking staffer in one of the ministry's European departments thinks. "If Boris Nikolayevich wins, Primakov will most likely remain in his post."

Even if you imagine a Communist winning the presidential race, Primakov has a chance of keeping his ministerial job. Sixth State Duma Deputy Sergey Yushenkov thinks that the left-wingers need a man capable of dealing with the West and not alienating people abroad. He thinks that the pragmatic academician could quite easily be suitable for this role. Incidentally, Communist Party of the Russian Federation leader Gennadiy Zyuganov has welcomed the new minister's appointment and expressed hope of changes in Russian foreign policy.

At the same time, according to one of the people well-acquainted with Primakov during the eighties, he is too closely linked with the Gorbachev era and is therefore unacceptable to both the Communists and the nationalists. They are hardly going to forget that in August 1991 Yevgeniy Maksimovich, who was at the time head of the USSR parliament's Soviet of the

Union, opposed the State Committee for the State of Emergency.

At one time Primakov was far from having the reputation of being a great liberal. His trips to Baghdad ahead of the Gulf war as President Gorbachev's personal representative, his attempts to pacify Saddam Husayn at the price of territorial concessions, and his skeptical view of Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze's attempts to join the West in opposing Iraqi aggression caused too much of an outcry.

Since then Primakov has given no grounds for being reproached with excessive conservatism. At the same time the policy of his Russian Foreign Intelligence Service (SVR) was in fairly marked contrast to Foreign Ministry policy during the "early Kozyrev" days. Under Primakov's leadership intelligence officers mastered a new form of cooperation with public opinion. The SVR's analytical reports, which were regularly made public, were couched in a moderately great-power tone. The documents were devoted to strategic problems such as NATO's eastward expansion or Moscow's relations with the former Union republics.

Whereas the SVR's public reports provoked conflicting opinions, the information supplied by Primakov's department to the Foreign Ministry using official channels was invariably highly appreciated by diplomats. "Yevgeniy Maksimovich was able to maintain the former KGB First Main Directorate's analysis units at the proper level," one ministry staffer said in this regard. "SVR information is precise and objective. Unlike the memorandums provided by the Federal Counterintelligence Service and the Federal Security Service, it has no desire to oblige the Kremlin."

Understandably not much is known about concrete intelligence matters. But we can nevertheless conclude from the scrappy reports that have filtered through to the press that where necessary the SVR has cooperated successfully with its Western colleagues, for instance in liberating the two French pilots captured by the Bosnian Serbs.

Journalists and experts would wait for the publication of open SVR reports because that was one of the few chances of seeing and hearing Primakov himself, who by and large preferred to remain in the background. The academician's professional reserve (which contrasts with his personal charm and ability to win people over) is one reason why Western missions today are having difficulty in picturing what moves they should expect from the new head of the Foreign Ministry.

"It is hard for us to draw up any hypotheses," IZVESTIYA was told by an adviser at one NATO

country's embassy. "However, we do not foresee an excessively anti-Western policy. In effect, there will be no need to change foreign policy because it changed before Primakov's appointment. Take the expansion of the North Atlantic alliance: Moscow's position on that issue is so hard-line now that it simply cannot get any tougher."

Will Primakov's arrival on Smolensk Square herald significant cadre changes? Most likely not, our interlocutors at the Foreign Ministry believe. Needless to say, it is quite possible that the new minister will bring with him two or three of his Oriental specialist buddies with a view to strengthening various eastern sectors. But at the same time no mass transfer of SVR experts to the foreign policy department is to be expected.

Admittedly, some reshuffles are already preordained, and they will hardly depend on Yevgeniy Maksimovich. We learned from confidential sources that during its work last year the commission monitoring Foreign Ministry activity led by Vice Premier Vitaliy Ignatenko deemed four deputy ministers unfit for their posts. Evidently with Andrey Kozyrev's departure their days are numbered.

It is quite likely that under Primakov Russian diplomacy, which has effectively remained presidential diplomacy, will be externally more independent of the Kremlin than it was under Kozyrev. The new foreign minister is hardly going to consult the president at every turn. By giving such a responsible post to a person with independent political clout Yeltsin is deliberately giving the diplomatic service greater autonomy.

Ahead of the crucial events that lie in store for the country in the summer the president needs a man of Primakov's caliber. Yeltsin evidently believes that if a Communist victory in the June election becomes inevitable and extraordinary measures are needed to avert it, Yevgeniy Maksimovich with his authority will find the requisite arguments and means to persuade the surrounding world of the head of state's rectitude.

President Boris Yeltsin has appointed Colonel General Vyacheslav Trubnikov, formerly SVR first deputy director, to replace Yevgeniy Primakov as director of the SVR.

Yeltsin Appoints SVR Director, Deputy Director
 MK1101115796 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA
 in Russian 11 Jan 96 p 2

[Report by Andrey Poleshchuk: "New Russian Foreign Intelligence Service Director Appointed. He Is Colonel General Vyacheslav Trubnikov"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Yesterday, Russian President Boris Yeltsin signed the edict appointing Colonel General Vyacheslav Trubnikov director of the Russian Foreign Intelligence Service [SVR]. Thus, the appointment of the new head of one of Russia's special services was formally confirmed in record time: a day after the appointment of Academician Yevgeniy Primakov, former SVR director, as foreign minister of Russia. Vyacheslav Trubnikov is the 23d head of this country's intelligence service since it was created in December 1920.

According to available information, during the Tuesday [9 January] meeting in the Kremlin between Boris Yeltsin and Yevgeniy Primakov, the latter actively lobbied for the candidacy of Colonel General Trubnikov. Following his meeting with the president, Mr. Primakov confidently stated that it was his first deputy who would head the intelligence service. The signing of the corresponding edict was preceded by a short conversation between President Yeltsin and Vyacheslav Trubnikov yesterday afternoon.

The news of this appointment was taken with satisfaction in the SVR's central apparatus. [passage omitted]

Colonel General Trubnikov, 51, is a graduate of the Institute of Foreign Relations and an intelligence school. He is fluent in Hindi and English. He has spent 15 years in South Asia: India, Bangladesh, Nepal, and Pakistan. He has worked under journalist cover, having been a member of the Journalists Union since 1977. He has been decorated with two Red Star Orders and many medals. He has been working in the intelligence service central apparatus since 1977 and was appointed SVR first deputy director in 1992.

He is married and has a daughter (the Trubnikovs' elder son died a tragic death in 1989). He is an enthusiastic reader and is fond of movies. His favorite sports club is "Spartak." His first interview to the Russian press as SVR first deputy director was that to NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in December 1993.

Also yesterday, Lieutenant General Aleksey Shcherbakov, 54, was appointed SVR first deputy director. He has been working in the intelligence service since 1964 after graduation from the Moscow Highest Technical School. He is a specialist in the field of science-and-technology and economic problems.

Yeltsin Appoints Foreign Policy Council Secretary
 LD0901100596 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
 0956 GMT 9 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW January 9 (ITAR-TASS) — President Boris Yeltsin appointed Vladimir Slavin the the secretary of the foreign policy council which he had set up in December, presidential spokesman Sergey Medvedev told Tass on Tuesday.

Slavin worked in the department of Yeltsin's foreign policy adviser Dmitriy Ryurikov.

The council is to draft proposals and recommendations for the basic guidelines of the Russian foreign policy.

Yeltsin Signs Law on Foreign Intelligence
 LD1001161096 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
 1436 GMT 10 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, January 10 (ITAR-TASS) — Russian President Boris Yeltsin today signed the law concerning the country's foreign intelligence, the press service of the head of state reported.

The law was passed by the State Duma in early December. It determines the status, the basics of the organization and functioning of Russia's foreign intelligence and the procedure of supervision over its activity.

The law lays down that the need for carrying out intelligence activity is determined by the President of the Russian Federation, the Federation Council and the State Duma within their respective competence and proceeding from the impossibility or inadvisability of ensuring the country's security by other means.

Under the law, the intelligence activity is conducted on the basis of separation of powers between the bodies of state authority charged with ensuring security, legality, respect of the rights and freedoms of man and citizen, under the control exercised by the President and the Federal Assembly, as well as through a combination of open and secret means and methods.

In accordance with the law, the objectives of intelligence activity include the provision of the President of the Russian Federation, the Federal Assembly and the government of the Russian Federation with intelligence data they need for decision-making in the political, economic, defence, scientific, technical and environmental fields.

For purposes of gathering intelligence data, the law grants the bodies in charge of conducting foreign intelligence activity the right to establish confidential cooperation relations with persons voluntarily agreeing to such cooperation; to provide for assigning codenames

to their agents and their operations, as well as arranging for them to be formally listed as working in other organisations and institutions, and to use, for purposes of security, documents concealing the true identity of their agents, and to take necessary measures to ensure their own security.

The President of the Russian Federation exercises, under the law, general control over the activity of the bodies of foreign intelligence of the Russian Federation.

As reported earlier, President Yeltsin appointed Vyacheslav Trubnikov the new chief of the Foreign Intelligence Service. Yevgeniy Primakov, who headed the Service earlier, is now Russia's new Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Yeltsin Seen Preparing for Second Presidential Term

*LD0701230596 Moscow NTV in Russian
1800 GMT 7 Jan 96*

[From the "Itogi" program]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] From the political point of view many people will remember the last few days of the outgoing year and the first days of the new year, first of all, by President Yeltsin's unprecedented numerous public appearances. He returned to work after two months of serious illness. Many people drew the conclusion from this fact that Boris Yeltsin started vigorous preparations for presidential elections. Is it so? Pavel Lobkov tried to find an answer to this question.

[Lobkov] [passage omitted] Yeltsin is making up for shortage of contacts. His enforced isolation is over, and the Kremlin's protocol department is doing everything possible to stress the fact that Yeltsin has returned to the people. Of course, turning up at New Year celebrations is not as important a function for a head of state as the tens of decrees signed by Yeltsin during the week, from setting a date for the first meeting of the Senate to a decree on improving computer trade in securities. This is important for other purposes — for elections.

[begin Yeltsin recording] I'm still thinking should I run for the second term or not, I'm thinking about this. [video shows Yeltsin, surrounded by people in the street, who say Of course, you must run, we'll support you.] [end recording]

[Lobkov] In all probability, Yeltsin has already made up his mind. The main task now is, perhaps, to make it look as natural as possible. The image of the president of the Kremlin which could emerge from dry reports on meetings in Barvikha must be destroyed as soon as possible. A president of Russia is the master of the country, including its Christmas trees

and its roads. The joint inspection of the circular road by the mayor of Moscow and the Russian president clearly confirmed this point. In his speech Yeltsin used some construction terms and this could not fail to please future electors since this recreated the image of Yeltsin of the first elections. Both the president and the mayor are builders [in their past] and this created a special atmosphere around the event. It's not for nothing that Yuriy Luzhkov, as if putting a full stop to a chain of rumors and hints, invited Boris Yeltsin to open the next section of the road late this year in the capacity of president. At the same time, despite his impressive public activities, the president seems to have turned away for the time being from the problems of relations with the new Duma. What if you elect a Communist?, the president joked speaking about the June elections, thus making his only remark on party matters. Meanwhile, Viktor Chernomyrdin had two meetings with [Gennadiy] Zyuganov and [Vladimir] Zhirinovskiy, and we hardly know anything about them apart from the fact that Communists are unlikely to enter the government. The importance of meetings is usually inversely proportional to the volume of information. In all likelihood, these meetings discussed ways to avoid nasty surprises for the government. And Yeltsin obviously stood aloof from the battle: a president as a symbol and the bearer of ideology. This idea was especially emphasized at the Christmas celebrations in the country's main church. [passage omitted]

[begin Yeltsin recording] This building is, as it were, a symbol. It has been created in a year. This means things are possible. This means that Russia is alive. This means that the Russian spirit is alive. This means that the Orthodox Church is alive. That is the main significance of this church, quite aside from its direct purpose as a memorial to those fighting men of ours who died in 1812. [end recording]

[Lobkov] The Church of Christ the Savior is of major ideological importance, the president said today. Yeltsin has not uttered the word ideology in a positive sense for a long time and it's hardly accidental that it was used in the same context with Orthodoxy and it's hardly by accident that a few days earlier, standing next to the Tsar-Bell, Yeltsin said that not only the West but also the East is important for Russia. [end recording]

The numerous and pompous, Byzantine style, mentions of the president in today's religious service in the main Russian church leave no doubt: while Yeltsin is still deciding whether he should stay president for the next five years, an ideology for the new presidentship is already prepared. Whatever the future rivals will offer, the image of president the builder on the steps of a cathedral is obviously replacing the worn-out picture of

the president on a tank. And for the Russian elector, who is used to irrational choice and historical analogies, this image may become the key one. This is Pavel Lobkov for NTV.

Zyuganov Nominated for President

MM1101113596 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA
in Russian 11 Jan 96 p 2

[Report by Zhanna Kasyanenko under the general heading: "Gennadiy Zyuganov Nominated as Presidential Candidate"]

[FBIS Translated Text] On reading our newspaper's extensive mail you reach the conclusion that for readers the question of who can be and is worthy to be Russia's president was decided long ago in favor of Gennadiy Zyuganov. Here far from all readers adhering to this viewpoint are Communists. Actually, like all those who gave their votes at the elections for the CPRF [Communist Party of the Russian Federation]. There are 500,000 people in the party itself but here the count runs into many millions. People approach the nomination of the president with completely different yardsticks from the nomination of a party leader. The president, the head of state, is for everyone, not only for Communists. And nonetheless they chose Communist Zyuganov. Why?

A meeting of the action group of citizens for the nomination of Gennadiy Zyuganov as presidential candidate was held Tuesday in Moscow. The organizers of the meeting included the state-patriotic movement "Spiritual Legacy" and the editorial board of the independent people's newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA. It was believed that the meeting, in accordance with the law, would be attended by 100 people. So it was decided to hold it in the small auditorium of the building of the Russian Writers' Union on Komsomolskiy Avenue.

"Oh, the meeting's organizers would have gotten into trouble in the tough partocratic times for this lack of foresight," I thought when I saw the crowd standing in the lobby, the corridors, and the auditorium. Not only could people not sit down in the auditorium, there was not even anywhere for them to stand! Enormous lines formed for the desks where members of the action group were being registered. There were more than 100 people here! Later, when counting the votes, it turned out there were 247! And even that was far from all those who wanted to join the group. After the meeting, in the yard of an apartment block on Komsomolskiy Avenue I heard people saying aggrievedly: Why did they not include so-and-so or so-and-so? After all they met, their names are also of some importance to us all!

The session was opened by SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA chief editor Valentin Chikin. On the presidium was

Svetlana Savitskaya, pilot-cosmonaut and twice hero of the Soviet Union, and "Spiritual Legacy" representative Yuriy Repkin.

There were many speakers. But everyone realized that like-minded people had gathered in the auditorium and so each spoke briefly, clearly, and in a businesslike manner, seeking to leave time for others and at the same time to come to the point. And the point was by no means that people had come to eulogize Zyuganov but quite the opposite — in the desire collectively to consider the responsibility to the people which the action group is assuming in nominating Gennadiy Andreyevich as presidential candidate. Collective farm chairman Krasnikov, "Spiritual Legacy" leader Podberezkin, Vinogradov, chairman of the Vladimir Oblast legislative assembly, Kabaidze, one of the country's best directors of the recent Soviet period, the young poet Kargashin, the artist Bondarenko, Likhachev Truck Plant radio mechanic Korolev, and worker Galdin from near Moscow, and General Tkachenko, chairman of the Union of Soviet officers, spoke.... There were many speeches by scientists, academicians, and scientific organizers. What arguments did they cite? The most diverse ones. And each one judged Zyuganov from the viewpoint of the social milieu he represented. Naturally the question arose of the candidate's views and morality and his ability to behave with dignity at any level and to represent the country with dignity. Here he was vouched for by people who know Gennadiy Andreyevich not only as a politician but also as a man and know his family and background. Vladimir Kabaidze, a very talented production organizer, cited as the main argument in Zyuganov's favor his ability to work in a team and the fact that he has such a team of mature, experienced people who are loyal to the cause. Academician Utyamshev said that a statesman must have a mastery of systems analysis, which is Zyuganov's main scientific specialty. The Communists and nonparty people, believers and atheists, mentioned among the most important, fundamental features of the country's future leader his roots in the people and his patriotism. From this viewpoint too Zyuganov's candidacy was examined very carefully. And it did not give rise to rebukes.

And although there can be no doubt that the people who had gathered for precisely that purpose would vote without abstaining or protesting for his nomination as candidate Svetlana Savitskaya, the meeting's strict and punctilious chairman, demanded that the counting commission work no approximately but very precisely.

Over 30 people were empowered by the meeting to conduct the next stage of the election campaign: to register the candidate at the Central Electoral Commission, to

organize the collection of signatures, and to engage in a mass of other difficult and demanding election matters.

LDPR Nominates Zhirinovskiy

LD1001222396 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
2216 GMT 10 Jan 96

[By Lyudmila Aleksandrova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW January 10 (ITAR-TASS) — Russian nationalist leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy was named as a candidate for the Russian presidency by his Liberal Democratic party (LDPR) on Wednesday, but made it clear that President Boris Yeltsin is likely to win the second term of office.

"The current president has chances for victory if he adheres to the advice of the LDPR. If he smashes all terrorists, stops the war in the Caucasus and restitutes money to the elderly people, he will have chances to win and we shall again be in the second place", Zhirinovskiy told a congress of his party.

He also advised the president "to take off white gloves and rosy-coloured eye glasses" and to "restore order in the country".

Yeltsin is expected to announce his decision on whether to run for the second term of office in February.

Zhirinovskiy was the only man in the party to run for the nomination. "There is no and can be no other candidate in our ranks", member of the party council Sergey Abeltsev told the LDPR congress.

Flamboyant Zhirinovskiy kneeled in front of the banner of his party and asked "the whole Russian people" to forgive him for "the humiliation which they suffered in this century".

His speech was accompanied by an orchestra and Zhirinovskiy recited famous Soviet-era poems praising this country and Moscow.

Forward, Russia! Leader Nominated

LD1001192496 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1800 GMT 10 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] One more name has appeared on the list of candidates for the Russian presidency. Our correspondent reported that at the meeting of an action committee in Moscow on Wednesday Boris Fedorov, leader of the Forward, Russia! movement and a State Duma deputy, was nominated as candidate for the Russian presidency.

Boris Fedorov is an economist, was director of the World Bank, worked in the European Reconstruction

and Development Bank, and was Russian finance minister.

The meeting, chaired by Bella Denisenko, took place with all norms of the law on nominating candidates for the post of Russian president being observed.

Leftmost Opposition Proposes Ilyukhin

MK0601124596 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY
KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 6 Jan 96 p 2

[Report by Aleksey Zverev: "Has a President Been Called For?"]

[FBIS Translated Text] A few days ago, several left-wing movements convened for a discussion about "their" nominee for president of the Russian Federation.

This resulted in a considerable muddle: The participants in the debate included "Working Russia," the CPRF [Communist Party of the Russian Federation], the Russian Public Union, the National Salvation Front, the Public Committee for Rule of Law and Sovereignty of the People, and other Bolshevik strongholds.

The "comrades" went into the greatest raptures over the candidacy of CPRF's Viktor Ilyukhin, chairman of the Committee for Security in the former Duma.

The temptation to try your luck in a presidential election is great indeed. Will, however, Viktor Ilyukhin leave his boss for the sake of supremacy over an illusory leftmost opposition?

Your MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS correspondent put this question to Viktor Ilyukhin, who had been surprised by the "patriots" proposal. In his words, he "has always been free from political ambition and has never been lured by power." He said, however, that the decision of the extraparlimentary left-wing opposition is quite understandable because its own leaders have compromised themselves to an extreme, and the left is looking for a candidacy suitable for all. Viktor Ilyukhin believes that a presidential candidate from the united Communists should be "an ethnic Russian with a Russian face and a Russian name who has not worked in presidential structures" (as you can see, this is the living image of the leader of the Duma's largest faction).

Economics Minister Denies Allegations About Resignation

LD0601161296 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1421 GMT 6 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Jan 6 (INTERFAX) — Russian Economics Minister Yevgeniy Yasin today denied media reports alleging his resignation.

"These reports regarding my resignation and Yakov Urinson's resignation (Urinson is the first deputy economics minister — IF) are false," Yasin said in an interview with INTERFAX.

Yasin said the governmental apparatus and the presidential apparatus had no information on the Russian president issuing a decree on dismissing the economics minister and his first deputy as the media alleged.

As it was previously reported, Russian President Boris Yeltsin sharply criticized the Economics Ministry's performance in late December 1995. Yeltsin sent a message to Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin saying that the Economics Ministry failed to carry out the president's decision on funding the Krasnoyarsk harvester plant. Chernomyrdin ordered the Economics Ministry to resolve the problem as soon as possible.

Yasin told reporters that the criticism was true and promised to punish the officials responsible for the delay in the financing of the struggling harvester plant.

However, the delay in the plant's funding is partially to blame on the harvester plant's management, INTERFAX has learned. As a result of the plant's management failing to submit necessary documents for holding an investment tender on the plant's projects, the projects were not included in the federal investment program.

The Economics Ministry is currently taking measures to accelerate the disbursement of funds for the Krasnoyarsk harvester plant. The problem is likely to be resolved soon, sources in the Russian Machine-Building Committee told INTERFAX.

Federal Assembly

Council Official Criticizes Handling of Kizlyar Crisis

LD1101095996 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 0900 GMT 11 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Ramazan Abdulatipov, the deputy chairman of the Federation Council, has reported from Dagestan that there were plans to hand over the servicemen seized by gunmen yesterday at 1000 hours this morning in the presence of Russian and foreign journalists. After this, a corridor leading onto Chechen territory should have been opened. In Abdulatipov's opinion, the Chechen gunmen could have been forced to leave the territory of Dagestan yesterday afternoon if the extreme lack of coordination in the federal troops' actions had not impeded this. No one has yet been able to explain why the group of armed bandits and hostages have been sealed off in the village of Pervomayskoye, despite agreement being reached with the republic's leaders that the

gunmen should be able to progress unhindered towards Chechnya.

Yushenkov: Impossible To Close Mountain Border

LD0901144196 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy
in Russian 1300 GMT 9 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Sergey Yushenkov, head of the Duma defense committee, does not rule out the resignation of Andrey Nikolayev [director of the Russian Federal Border Service] as one of the possible consequences of today's tragedy in Kizlyar:

[Begin Yushenkov recording] I think that this would be a hasty step although the border guards here, of course, probably do bear some of the responsibility. It is quite impossible to close the border completely in mountainous localities. Years would be needed to build the facilities needed on the border to prevent anyone getting across it. [end recording]

Impending Changes in Federation Council Described

MK1101072596 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI
in Russian

No. 1 1-14 Jan 96 (Signed to press 9 Jan 96) p 7

[Analysis by Anna Ostapchuk: "Senate Alters Face and Regulations"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Last Friday [5 January], Boris Yeltsin issued an edict under which the new Senate will gather for the first time on 23 January. The president himself will open the first session.

The president's edict was provoked, to all appearances, by the Federation Council speaker Vladimir Shumeyko, who was slow with announcing the date on which the Senate's powers end. As recently as on 5 January he was saying things to the effect that work would, perhaps, have to be continued until the end of the month, by which time there may be ready the Constitutional Court decision in response to the senators' request on how the upper house should be formed.

Today, there is hardly another body of power which generates as many questions as a new Federation Council does. It will only inherit the building, a slew of rough draft laws, and a budget deficit. According to the results of an audit conducted by the Comptroller Office, the Federation Council apparatus spent "illegally or inefficiently" 700 million rubles of budget money during two years. It can hardly be made accountable for this, however. The point is that the Federation Council is one of the dependents of the President's Administration of Affairs and has no accounts of its own.

Among the laws to be inherited is a law on securities market, a package of laws on local self-government, a tax code, and a law on delimiting competence between bodies of state power and administration. This is only a tiny bit of laws to be fine-tuned or approved by new senators because each committee of the upper chamber has a "little debt" of its own.

The regulations and structure of the new Federation Council are to undergo radical changes. In accordance with the 5 January edict, the regions are expected to not simply name their representatives but also sort out all doubtful cases independently. In Tatarstan, for example, the prime minister is head of the executive power, whereas the president is head of the republic. Is the president supposed to give up his seat in the Senate to his premier? In three federation components, parliaments consist of two houses, which were supposed to agree on whose chairman was to join the Senate and to send data on their representatives to the president.

It is already evident in what direction the regulations are going to change. Should the senators decide to elect their chairman (rather than persons presiding over each session), they will be supposed to determine the term of office of this leader. As far as MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI knows, the most popular option is one year: not too long and not long enough to get tired of a person.

By all indications, members of the upper house will insist on that the period within which a law should be considered be extended from 14 to 30 days (the idea belongs to Leningradskaya Oblast Governor Belyakov). This is a problem they will not be able to resolve on their own since the Constitution provides for two weeks, and they will, perhaps, have to initiate a procedure to make an amendment to the Constitution.

The staff is in for an especially impressive metamorphosis. Considering the fact that oblast- and republic-level chiefs will not be able to give too much attention to performing their "public duties" in Moscow, a whole system of "backups" will be set up within the staff. For example, Federation Council members will use the services of at least three aides instead of just one. Two of them will concentrate on expert work in lawmaking of their boss's choosing. The committees will have standing expert councils consisting of representatives of senators and scholars studying not only the legal aspect of draft laws but also their contents (it is unclear so far who is going to sit on conciliation committees). Larger specialized boards will take the place of the apparatus sections.

So grandiose a structure is unlikely to be taken charge of by an ordinary apparatchik. According to MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI's information, some

members of the outgoing Federation Council have been making statements to the effect that they could tackle this important job. Named among possible candidates are, in particular, Yevgeniy Krestyaninov, chairman of the regulations commission, and Vice Speaker Anatoliy Dolgopletov.

Initial proposals on regulations and structure are supposed to be made by the organizing committee, led by Orel Oblast Governor Yegor Stroyev, which is preparing the first session of the Senate. The organizing committee includes many senators who, like Stroyev, will continue to serve in the new upper chamber.

Edict on Council Launch Published

MM1001142096 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 10 Jan 96 p 1

[Russian Federation Presidential Edict No. 8 signed by President Yeltsin, dated the Kremlin, Moscow, 5 January 1996: "On the Convocation of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council"]

[FBIS Translated Text] To ensure the continuity of the legislative process and mindful of the need for organizational-legal measures in preparation for the first session of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council formed in accordance with the Federal Law "On the Procedure for the Formation of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council," I decree:

1. That the first session of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council (hereafter known as the Federation Council) is to be convened on 23 January 1996 in Moscow.
2. That the first session of the Federation Council is to be opened by the Russian Federation President. Until the election of the chairman of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council the session is to be chaired by the oldest member of the Federation Council.
3. The legislative and executive organs of state power of the components of the Russian Federation have until 10 January 1996 to submit to the President of the Russian Federation information on the membership of the Federation Council in accordance with the Federal Law "On the Procedure for the Formation of the Russian Federation Federal Assembly Federation Council."
4. The list of members of the Federation Council is to be published in ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA.
5. This edict goes into force on the day of its official publication.

(signed) B. Yeltsin, President of the Russian Federation.

Edict No. 8, the Kremlin, Moscow, 5 January 1996.

KRO's Lebed Calls Government Policy 'Suicidal'

*LD1101121296 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1107 GMT 11 Jan 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Jan 11 (INTERFAX) — One of the leaders of the Congress of Russian Communities (KRO), General Aleksandr Lebed says the Russians will become extinct unless the government's suicidal policy is stopped.

The country's future would depend on who becomes the next president, the general said in a speech at the KRO congress in Moscow on Thursday.

"The Russians do not want the stagnation of advanced socialism or degradation of capitalism: we want our own, Russian way of development," he said.

Lebed stressed the country was in need of a policy of national pragmatism. He believes that nothing short of a strong handed policy could help achieve decent living standards, something the KRO sets as a goal.

"For this to happen, we will be ready to cooperate with any parties except anti-popular ones," Lebed said.

One other KRO leader, Yuriy Skokov, reaffirmed that the KRO's main task was to seek new allies on both right and left with an aim of averting any political confrontation in Russian society.

He told the forum that the Russians were in need of a president who could be an embodiment of a protector while enjoying credibility on the ground. He said Lebed, who had shown personal integrity, toughness and openness was such a man.

On the December elections, Skokov said the KRO had been defeated because of failing to reach the "broad masses."

38 Duma Deputies Unite in Agrarian Faction

*LD1101120696 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1107 GMT 11 Jan 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Jan 11 (INTERFAX) — The State Duma's Agrarian group is ready for registration because 38 deputies have expressed readiness to form such a group, leader of the Agrarian Party Mikhail Lapshin told INTERFAX Thursday.

In accordance with the Duma rules, a group can be given the status of a faction if it consists of at least 35 deputies.

The Agrarian Party, which failed to clear the 5 percent hurdle during the 1995 parliamentary elections, has

only 20 deputies representing single-mandate districts (in 1993 it scored 7.99 percent of the votes). These 20 deputies of the Agrarian group are likely to be joined by several deputies representing the Communist Party and a number of independent deputies, said Lapshin.

In the previous Duma, the Agrarian Party formed a group of 55 deputies immediately after elections. By the end of 1995, the group had 50 members. Lapshin, who lost his deputy's mandate as a result of the elections, is convinced that the Agrarian group will get the Land Code approved in conjunction with its allies.

This framework draft law, dealing with land reform, was turned down by the previous Duma three times at the second reading.

Ryzhkov, Chilingarov Reported To Be Forming Duma Groups

*MK1001134396 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA
in Russian 10 Jan 96 p 2*

[Report by Ivan Pavlov: "Lines Drawing Process Is On in Duma. Independent Deputies Sign Up For Several Groups at a Time"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Catalysers in the process of knocking together Duma deputies' groups are mainly members of those electoral associations and blocs which did not clear the five-percent hurdle in the federal constituency.

Yesterday, for example, deputies of the "Power to the People!" bloc Nikolay Ryzhkov, Sergey Baburin and Sergey Manyakin — all elected in single-seat constituencies — announced that they had formed a group conventionally called "Narodovlastiye" [sovereignty of the people]. Mr. Ryzhkov told journalists that the group's organizing committee had received 27 written applications. Another 11 deputies wanted to join "Narodovlastiye." Thus, in accordance with the Duma regulations quota of 35 members, "Narodovlastiye" appears to have the required number [of members].

The Ryzhkov-Baburin group is not the only one, however. The Agrarian deputies, for example, claim they have enlisted at least 39 people. They include 20 Agrarian Party of Russia deputies elected in single-seat constituencies, about ten people who got into the Duma either on the CPRF ticket or elected from the same party in majority-vote constituencies, as well as about ten deputies who are formally "independent."

Another deputy group, conventionally called the "Chilingarov group" is in the making.

Interestingly, the "Chilingarov group" may be also joined by deputies from the "Yushenkov group,"

whereas the latter refuse to join hands with whom they call "Communists," having in mind primarily Nikolay Ryzhkov's men. The latter, for their part, do not rule out the possibility of uniting with the "Chilingarov group," but they demand that a number of what they call odious individuals be ordered out of it, primarily implying some democrats.

Regional Affairs

Yeltsin: Troops To Be Withdrawn If Talks Successful

LD1101104596 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1026 GMT 11 Jan 96

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Nikita Yermakov, Mikhail Kalmykov, and Igor Shchegolev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Paris, 11 Jan (ITAR-TASS) — Russia will withdraw its troops from Chechnya as soon as agreement on the non-use of weapons is reached at the "peace talks within Chechnya" which are now under way. Russian President Boris Yeltsin said this to a group of Russian journalists, including ITAR-TASS correspondents, after his meeting with French President Jacques Chirac.

After the withdrawal of troops "only militia for maintaining public order will remain" in Chechnya, Boris Yeltsin said.

Caucasus Leaders Call on Yeltsin for Resolute Actions

LD1101135396 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1326 GMT 11 Jan 96

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Andrey Shtorkh]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 11 Jan (ITAR-TASS) — The heads of republics, territories, and regions of the Northern Caucasus today called on Russian President Boris Yeltsin to take resolute measures to combat the Dudayev militants and bring to trial the bandits who have committed crimes.

"The so-called militants who have lost their human features, transgressed the elementary standards of morality, betrayed noble Caucasian traditions, violated the sacred standards of our forefathers, after the monstrous evil-doings in Budennovsk have again taken as hostages children, the sick and totally innocent inhabitants of the town of Kizlyar," says a statement by the leaders of the Northern Caucasus which was sent to the head of the Russian state and which ITAR-TASS has obtained. The crimes committed in Budennovsk and Kizlyar "have uncovered the true face of Dudayev's militants," the document notes.

The North Caucasian leaders stressed that "peace and stability throughout the whole of the Caucasus is connected with the establishment of state order in the Chechen republic" and they appealed to the president to demand that the federal government and Russian power structures take decisive measures to fight the illegal armed groups in Chechnya.

The statement was signed by: Aslan Dzharmov, the president of Adygeya; Magomedali Magomedov, head of the Dagestan State Council; Valeriy Kokov, the president of Kabardino-Balkaria; Vladimir Khubiyev, the head of Karachayevo-Cherkessia; Akhsarbek Galazov, the president of North Ossetia; Yevgeniy Kharitonov, head of administration of Krasnodar Territory; Petr Marchenko, head of administration of Stavropol Territory and Vladimir Chub, head of administration of Rostov Region.

Chernomyrdin on Hostage Situation, Government Changes

LD1001152096 Moscow Russian Public Television
First Channel Network in Russian
1200 GMT 10 Jan 96

[Report by Natalya Chernyshova; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Viktor Chernomyrdin, head of the Russian Government, stated today that the bandits who seized the hostages in Kizlyar would be punished.

[Begin Chernomyrdin recording] Measures will be taken but not frontal measures, not attacks, not a death for a death. We will never achieve anything like that. Death engenders death. This has always been the case and always will be the case. When people want an eye for an eye, we say no. Nevertheless, banditry will be punished. Everyone who is involved in it will be made to answer. [end recording]

The prime minister refused to speak in more detail about future government actions until all the hostages are released. Meanwhile, a bilateral agreement between Russia and Kyrgyzstan was signed in the government building. Kyrgyzstan is the fourth state to express a desire to join the customs union of Russia, Belarus, and Kazakhstan. Time has shown that of all of the documents adopted within the framework of the CIS — and there are over 400 of them — only these agreements are actually working. The documents on Kyrgyzstan joining it will be ratified by the other members of the union by February at the latest. Journalists also took the opportunity to ask about the forthcoming personnel changes in the government. However, although Chernomyrdin confirmed that there would be changes he did not want to tie them in with elections — either past or future.

out an operation to kill Dudayev and his closest allies Shamil Basayev and Salman Raduyev.

"Yeltsin is not Stalin, (FSB chief Mikhail) Barsukov is not Beriya (chief of Stalin's secret police)," a FSB official said on Wednesday.

"The president has not issued such orders," a statement released by the FSB press service said.

The statement expressed regret that the allegations appeared at a time when the president put Barsukov in charge of an operation to free the hostages taken by Chechen terrorists led by Raduyev in Kizlyar, Dagestan.

The FSB official recalled that in the past, at the time of mass repressions, "state security bodies were used to carry out decisions adopted by the political leadership in circumvention of the court." But the times are different now, he added.

The statement said that the present Security Service is guided by the constitution and the law. Only a court of law can determine the degree of responsibility and a punishment for any crime committed by a citizen of Russia. However, there has been no trial over Dudayev, Basayev and Raduyev and no verdicts have been passed.

"An investigation is underway," the FSB official noted.

The FSB press service warned against a careless use of information provided by "well-informed sources." "Any careless word said during the operation being conducted by the FSB under the president's order to localise and stop the criminal activity of Dudayev illegal groups may cost innocent people their lives," the statement said.

Dudayev: 50 Years of War Even After Troop Pullout

*MK1101102296 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY
KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 11 Jan 96 p 1*

[Interview with Chechen President Dzhokhar Musayevich Dudayev by Yuliya Kalinina; on 9 January, place not given; : "Kizlyar Was Seized on Dudayev's Order. Dzhokhar Dudayev: 'Kizlyar Will Be Followed Up By Hundreds of Similar Operations'" first three passages are introduction; last passage is postscript]

[FBIS Translated Text] Your MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS correspondent, Yuliya Kalinina, has managed to meet with Dzhokhar Dudayev. She accompanied a parliamentary delegation made up of two deputies of the new Duma, Konstantin Borovoy and Arkadiy Yanovskiy. Initially, the purpose of the deputies' trip was to attempt somehow to ease tension that began to heighten on both sides after elections had been held in Chechnya. However, by the time the deputies reached

Dudayev, it was already too late to think about easing. On the morning of that day rebels seized Kizlyar, and the issue during the meeting with Dudayev was primarily the possibility of hostage release.

The deputies attempted to mediate a direct contact between Dudayev and Russian authorities and several times contacted presidential aides Satarov and Baturin. All attempts proved to be in vain, however. No one wanted to talk with Dudayev because it turned out that all rights to negotiate with the terrorists were turned over to the Dagestani government. Only the whereabouts of the settlement in which the meeting took place elicited keen interest, but this was precisely the matter regarding which the deputies could not meet the executive authority's requirements.

Dzhokhar Dudayev himself was not particularly inspired by the "Kizlyar" subject to make any revelations.

[Kalinina] When Basayev's detachment seized Budennovsk, you said that you did not give him such an order. Did the rebels enter Kizlyar also on their own initiative, or did you order them to do so this time?

[Dudayev] As for Budennovsk, I really did not give Basayev such an order. They had an absolutely different order, but they did not carry it out. Basayev was punished for that: He was removed from his post. In Kizlyar, however, the airborne assault battalion is actually carrying out an order by its commander in chief.

[Kalinina] What is the purpose of seizing Kizlyar?

[Dudayev] Gudermes was our last city — it was destroyed by Russian troops. We need housing, we need to accommodate our fighters somewhere and, besides, our command. We need a good hospital — we have 200 men wounded. For this reason we decided to create such conditions for us in a new Russian town. Kizlyar was just picked for this purpose. Three hundred years ago, this area saw the first clash between the Russian and Chechen armies. This is how a Russian-Chechen war began. An end to this war should also begin in this area.

[Kalinina] Do you think that the war can end upon seizing Kizlyar?

[Dudayev] Of course, it cannot — I said that this is the beginning of an end. Kizlyar will be followed up by hundreds of similar operations.

[Kalinina] When will the war end?

[Dudayev] It will drag on for a very long time. Even if troops are withdrawn from Chechnya and a peace agreement is signed, it will not end for another 50 years.

[Begin Chernomyrdin recording] Life is as it is. Everything is being done to make it better. We did not do it before the elections or after the elections to get things done. We did not work toward or for the elections, although Chernomyrdin really did need it for effect or for percentages. I did not do this and I think that I was right not to. Thank you. [end recording] [video shows Chernomyrdin addressing journalists and taking part in document signing ceremony]

Zavgayev Announces Chechen Government's Resignation

*LD1001151996 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1444 GMT 10 Jan 96*

[By Sergey Gorbunov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, January 10 (ITAR-TASS) — Chechen leader Doku Zavgayev announced the resignation of Chechnya's government on Wednesday [10 January].

In an interview with ITAR-TASS, Isa Aliroyev, Chechnya's envoy accredited to Russian President Boris Yeltsin, said that the news "was not a surprise. The events in Kizlyar only sped it (resignation) up."

He said he met Zavgayev earlier in the day and the Chechen leader told him that "our government is also responsible" for what happened in that Dagestan town, "primarily the power structures" of the republic.

Aliroyev stressed that the terrorist acts in Budennovsk and Kizlyar "had a provocative goal: to drive a wedge between us and the Stavropol region and Dagestan."

At the same time, he noted that the resignation of the Chechen government is a "quite normal procedure" in light of the recent election of the head of state who "has a right to form his own team."

He recalled that the government should have stepped down together with former Prime Minister Salambek Khadzhiyev, but it was decided that it would carry on pending a decision by the new Chechen leader.

Zavgayev Dismisses Chechen Government

*LD1001092896 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy
in Russian 0900 GMT 10 Jan 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] A Chechen government meeting began in Groznyy this morning. As we have just heard from Chechen leader Doku Zavgayev, the whole of his government have been dismissed. The dismissal decree was signed by Zavgayev himself. He said he is not satisfied with the work of the government and that he will now form a more capable government.

Chernomyrdin: Moscow Not To Change Chechen Policy

*LD1001103496 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1027 GMT 10 Jan 96*

[By Gennadiy Yezhov and Artem Protasenko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, January 10 (ITAR-TASS) — Russian cabinet head Viktor Chernomyrdin said here on Wednesday [10 January] that bandits who captured hostages in the Dagestan city of Kizlyar, would be punished.

"But we do not intend to use headlong methods which will mean risk to the lives of hostages," he stressed. The premier made this statement after a signing ceremony of Russian-Kyrgyz documents on forming a customs union.

Chernomyrdin expressed hope that the situation with the capture of hostages will be settled by the end of Wednesday. He added that "federal authorities will give an official appraisal of the situation after hostages taken from Kizlyar are freed".

Replying to a question by ITAR-TASS, the cabinet head specially noted that, following the terrorist act in Kizlyar, "the government will not change its policy towards the Chechen Republic which was and remains part of the Russian Federation".

However, according to the premier, power-wielding ministries and the government, following the criticism expressed by President Yeltsin on Tuesday, "must rectify their mistakes and preclude such outrages by bandits, bordering on a tragedy".

"We shall not apply headlong attacks and will not follow the 'tit-for-tat' rule, since we are convinced that death breeds only death. However, bandits and terrorists will be punished," the premier emphasised.

FSB Denies Order by Yeltsin To Execute Dudayev

*LD1001200796 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1917 GMT 10 Jan 96*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Olga Semyonova]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, January 10 (ITAR-TASS) — The Federal Security Service (FSB) denied on Wednesday a newspaper report that it has been ordered by President Boris Yeltsin to kill Chechen separatist leader Dzhokhar Dudayev.

The report, which was carried by NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA on January 10, alleged that Yeltsin ordered the FSB and the Defence Ministry to prepare and carry

[Kalinina] Let us imagine that direct talks could be established between you and the Russian side and that you will find one peaceful solution or another to the standoff in Kizlyar. Will the fighters of the Raduyev detachment obey your order to leave the town?

[Dudayev] Yes, I am absolutely confident that an order of mine will be enough for them to carry it out meticulously.

[Kalinina] What would be your terms in this case?

[Dudayev] A withdrawal of all troops, peace talks, and international representatives of the United States and the United Nations to monitor compliance with a peace agreement.

[Kalinina] Are you ready to hold direct talks with top representatives of the Russian authorities?

[Dudayev] Yes, we are. Even though for me personally it is better to continue the war, I have to compromise. The people want the troops to be withdrawn. I have to bow to my people's will.

[Kalinina] Why do you need the continuation of the war?

[Dudayev] If the troops are withdrawn it will immediately become much more difficult for me, as president, to run the country. There will be no financial assistance from Russia, we will have to restore life to normal, to revive the economy, to feed and heal the people, to resolve financial problems. Russia, meanwhile, will be sending in sabotage groups, organizing terrorist acts, stirring up enmity among the Chechens. Tackling these problems will be much more difficult for me than now it is to fight. Currently everything is simple: There is a state of war. There is an enemy, who must be fought. Now that nearly entire Chechnya is destroyed, we have no other option but to make inroads into your territory, to destroy your cities, and to kill your people.

[Kalinina] The fact that a Dagestani town was seized will not elicit such a tide of indignation as was the case in summer, when Budennovsk — an absolutely "Russian" town — was seized. You know, Caucasus highlanders against Caucasus highlanders... This will not impress the broad masses as much as an attack on a Russian town. So what do the Dagestani have to do with it? Why should they suffer?

[Dudayev] First, Kizlyar is a 90-percent "Russian town." Second, if events there evolve according to the Budennovsk scenario, Dagestani residents will realize that they have no value for Russia either.

[Kalinina] The Russian special services are hunting for you. Do you somehow feel the results of their activity?

[Dzhokhar Dudayev] Of course, I do. Attempts on my life, acts of sabotage, provocations — everything there is in the arsenal of the Russian special services has been used. But I am protected by my people.

In fact, my death will only do Russia a disservice. I am insured. We have made good preparations for this event. So I do not duck danger — on the contrary, I court it. My death will give my people a boost so as to overcome a psychological barrier and to become genuinely cruel and ruthless while fighting Russia. [end of Dudayev interview]

Sources close to Dudayev have told MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS that the detachment that attacked Kizlyar had in fact been given an order to seize the local airfield and to destroy the helicopters that have carried out regular air raids over Chechen territory. In all likelihood, the hostage taking was an impromptu action conceived during the operation. Shamil Basayev's laurels, indeed, do not give many people in Chechnya a moment's peace.

Dudayev Predicts 'More Important Event' Than Kizlyar

MK1101101396 Moscow OBCHCHAYA GAZETA
in Russian

No. 1, 11-17 Jan 96 (Signed to press 10 Jan 96) p 1

[Interview with Dzhokhar Dudayev by Nadezhda Chaykova; in Chechnya, date not given: "Things Will Not End With Kizlyar, Says Dzhokhar Dudayev in an Interview With OBCHSHAYA GAZETA's Correspondent"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Chaykova] How do you assess the events in Kizlyar?

[Dudayev] Everything is proceeding under my strict supervision. The situation is controllable, and I do not regard it as anything extraordinary.

[Chaykova] This action by gunmen can entail new victims in Chechnya, not lead to peace negotiations, as was the case after Budennovsk.

[Dudayev] I am far from thinking that bloodshed will end today. I have stated more than once — and I am saying it now — that war has just begun. I believe that a more important event than Kizlyar will happen.

[Chaykova] Are you in a position to stop the bloodshed?

[Dudayev] I declare with a full sense of responsibility that one command from me is enough to begin or stop any operation.

[Chaykova] Do you consider terrorist acts a permissible means of struggle?

[Dudayev] I have for too long stuck to principles of international law, have observed human rights, and have not resorted to any terrorist acts. And today I am aware that the international community has accepted this war by Russia, this war without rules, without principles, without measure, a war which destroys everything and everybody. The world community has [thus] sanctioned me to take any actions. They will be assessed as necessary measures against Russian vandalism.

[Chaykova] People are tired of war and want to return to a peaceful life.

[Dudayev] Of course — who wants to see their children killed? But first Russia's violence toward the Chechens must be stopped.

[Chaykova] Supposing Russian troops leave Chechnya. Will there be a showdown then between you and Doku Zavgayev?

[Dudayev] This option is not ruled out; Russia has put in a lot of funds and efforts to create an irreconcilable, Afghan-style, confrontation in 1993-1994. Therefore I am personally interested in that this war go on. I do not even want the troops to be withdrawn immediately. After all, special commando groups will stay behind in any event. And we need to rebuild what has been destroyed and provide people with housing, jobs, and medical treatment.

[Chaykova] What are you demanding from Russia today?

[Dudayev] First, stop the war and then pull out the troops and sit down at the negotiating table. UN and US representatives must be present at these talks as guarantors of the implementation of the agreements that will have been reached. They must be in a position to force the sides to implement these agreements.

[Chaykova] And what conditions will the Chechen side set?

[Dudayev] Chechnya will never — under no circumstances — be part of Russia. No transitional periods. We will conclude a treaty with them, say, for 10 years, providing for economic integration in the sphere of oil and gas, power generation, and other basic industrial spheres. We will guarantee the protection of Russian citizens if Russia for its part guarantees the protection of Chechen citizens. We will confine ourselves to this. Chechnya must join the CIS on the same terms as other states have done. If Russia or other CIS states do not observe their obligations under the treaty, we will then withdraw from the Commonwealth.

Dudayev Admits Ordering Kizlyar Raid

LD1001115096 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English*
1145 GMT 10 Jan 96

[By Sharip Asuyev]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] GROZNY, January 10 (ITAR-TASS) — Dzhokhar Dudayev has acknowledged that the attack of a gang of Chechen terrorists, led by Salman Raduyev, on the Daghestani town of Kizlyar, and the seizure of hostages from among local civilians, were carried out with his knowledge. "Everything occurring in his war is under my strict control," Dudayev told journalists at his headquarters in the Chechen mountains on Tuesday. "One order from me is enough to launch or stop any Kizlyar-type operation."

Dudayev did not rule out new terroristic acts by his men if the Chechen war continued. Asked about the world community's most negative reaction to terrorism, Dudayev claimed that the world community, which has accepted the Chechen war as it is, gave his men the right to act without any rules.

Dudayev reiterated that he was ready to resume negotiations with Moscow on his old terms: firstly — discontinuation of hostilities in Chechnya, secondly — withdrawal of Russian troops, and thirdly — United Nations and the United States unquestionable guarantees if he was to sit down at the negotiations table.

Kizlyar Hospital 'In Ruins,' Grounds Mined

MM1101124496 Moscow *SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA*
in Russian 11 Jan 96 p 1

[Report by Zhanna Kasyanenko under the rubric "Kizlyar on the Line": "Shock"]

[FBIS Translated Text] It was very difficult talking to Tatyana Mikhaylovna Shtempel, chief physician at Kizlyar City Hospital: She had witnessed the havoc and destruction wrought in the city by the terrorists. At the same time she carries the responsibility for everyone in the hospital.

Tiredness and the horror of what they have experienced and are still experiencing now make people very reluctant to talk:

"All patients have been transferred to the medical units set up at the railroad hospital," she said. "Thankfully all the doctors have survived, so there are people to perform urgent operations and deliver babies. Consequently we do not need help with medical personnel. However, we are acutely short of dressings, plasma, blood, disposable syringes, and antibiotics.

"There is virtually nothing left of our hospital. The militants laid mines and blew everything up when they went. The roof is completely destroyed, there are no doors or windows, the wards and operating theater are in ruins, and there is terrible devastation in the maternity wing. Everything is in ruins.... The most frightening thing of all is that the grounds around the hospital have also been mined. Two people have been blown up since the terrorists left...."

It so happens that Kizlyar's head of administration is far away on a business trip. Yuriy Artemovich Avanesov is carrying out his duties. I asked him to tell me about conditions in the city.

[Avanesov] "It is impossible to say at the moment exactly what damage has been done by this barbarous attack or how many civilians have been killed and injured. I myself learned of the attack at roughly 0520 hours on 9 January: I heard shooting from my house, so I immediately set off on foot to the police station. Other leaders soon arrived, so we set up a headquarters in the administration building. Dagestan's leaders arrived that same morning. We worked around the clock, of course. We appealed to the population to stay calm and remain in their homes, and we organized bread deliveries street by street so that people would not have to go far from home. We conveyed food to the hospital for the hostages.... There were terrible scenes when the hostages were released. There were tears, hysterics, and total shock among relatives and the captives themselves...."

"So what has become of our city? Several schools have been destroyed as well as the hospital. After all, the militants occupied schools too. It is simply a blessing that it was the last day of the school holidays and no children were there. The city's water supply and sewerage systems will have to be almost completely rebuilt, and a substation has been blown up. The militants pierced the main gas pipeline with submachine-gun fire. We are now rebuilding all this. We are counting the dead and counting the damage. Who could call this peacetime? The most important thing is to treat people for shock and organize them to rebuild our city. It is hard...."

Moscow Reportedly Rejects Rebels' Demand for Talks

LD1101132996 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1324 GMT 11 Jan 96

[By Gennadiy Yezhov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, January 11 (ITAR-TASS) — A source close to the Russian government said on Thursday [11 January] that neither the cabi-

net nor its chairman Viktor Chernomyrdin have been instructed by President Boris Yeltsin to hold negotiations with Chechen terrorists that are holding up to 300 hostages in a Daghestani village.

According to the source, chief of the Federal Security Service (FSB) Mikhail Barsulov is still in charge of the operation "to neutralize terrorists and free hostages."

The source stressed that the government is not considering guerrillas' demand for talks with Chernomyrdin. "The government does not take terrorists' demands as orders," he stressed.

Dagestan Government Against Force in Pervomayskoye

LD1101130196 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1200 GMT 11 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The Dagestan leadership demands that force must not be used against the Chechen terrorists who have taken hostages, the Dagestani government has said. It believes that any decision based on force can result in great numbers of casualties because the fighters are completely sealed off by the military.

Chechen Terrorists Line Up Hostages as Live Shield

LD1101104496 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1040 GMT 11 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, January 11 (ITAR-TASS) — Fearing an attack of Russian troops, terrorists holding hostages in a small village on the Dagestani-Chechen border, have commanded all hostages out of buses to line up in a life shield, a source in the Dagestani government told ITAR-TASS.

As of 13:00, Moscow time [1000 GMT], about 300 hostages — 160 brought from Kizlyar, 37 policemen and some 100 Pervomayskoye villagers — formed a live shield around the rebels, the source said.

Terrorist chieftain Salman Raduyev informed negotiators by radio telephone that he will command to start executing hostages if armour or troops approach closer than 100 metres (yards) to the convoy.

Terrorists got nervous upon intercepting a radio exchange between crews of Russian tanks apparently heading to the area, a duty officer at the Russian Interior Ministry told ITAR-TASS.

The officer admitted that an armour column is on its way from Grozny towards Pervomayskoye, but did not exclude that is a part of regular military traffic.

"The Dagestani Interior Ministry has no data on the objectives of the tank column. It is not excluded that the

tanks will by-pass Pervomayskoye, which is practically at the (Dagestani-Chechen) border, where armour traffic is always intensive," the duty officer said.

Spokesman Denies High Numbers of Pervomayskoye Hostages

LD1101120896 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 11 Jan 96

[From the "Vesti" program]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The hostage situation at the border between Chechnya and Dagestan has been aggravated further. [passage omitted] Reports on numbers of hostages are rather controversial. INTERFAX reported from Kizlyar that the terrorists had taken over 180 people with them. There are 110 women and children among them, AFP reports. The militants had also managed to take prisoner 37 OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] militiamen at a check point near Pervomayskoye yesterday.

[Correspondent G.Gennis] However, the representative of the Federal Security Service, Aleksandr Mikhaylov, has other information.

[Begin Mikhaylov recording] The militants have captured approximately 67 hostages; we give the figure, up to 70, because there are many villages who can turn into hostages any time. [end recording]

[Genns] According to Mikhaylov, the terrorists number 150 people and the OMON fighters seized the day before had volunteered as hostages. The terrorists have already shot dead six [OMON] fighters, and are threatening to shoot two hostages every hour if their demands are not complied with. [passage omitted] According to Mikhaylov, the subunits which are ready to begin the hostage release operation number more people than there were in the Budennovsk operation last time.

Gunmen Consolidating Positions in Pervomayskoye

LD1101095496 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 0900 GMT 11 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The Chechen gunmen are continuing to establish their positions in the settlement of Pervomayskoye. The terrorists are occupying several buildings on the outskirts of the village, adjacent to the main road. They are armed with grenade launchers and machine-guns and are carrying out linear defense. Federal forces' helicopters are continuing to circle the village and the district is sealed off. According to various reports, the terrorists are holding between 80 and 180 hostages. They seized 37 employees from the Novosibirsk internal affairs directorate at a road block in the village of Pervomayskoye on Wednesday [10

January]. Salman Raduyev stated at negotiations today [11 January] that the fate of the militiamen depended on the authorities' willingness to make concessions. Tifali Akhundov, a correspondent from the POSTFACTUM news agency, and a photographic correspondent from the NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA who is still being identified, are amongst the hostages.

Chechen Fighters Demand Talks With Chernomyrdin

LD1101114796 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1139 GMT 11 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 11 Jan (ITAR-TASS) — The Chechen gunmen with whom negotiations are being held in Pervomayskoye have put forward a new demand: the participation of Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, in the negotiations process, Leonid Golovnev, the deputy head of the Russian Interior Ministry's press service, said in an interview with ITAR-TASS correspondent Larisa Kisilinskaya. He added that "the number of hostages is increasing."

Chechen 'Terrorists' Demand Withdrawal of Commandos

LD1101092296 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0852 GMT 11 Jan 96

[By Gadzhi Shamov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, January 11 (ITAR-TASS) — Chechen terrorists blocked in the settlement of Pervomayskoye at the Dagestani-Chechen border with about 200 hostages, demanded that commando units of the Russian Federal Security Service (ex-KGB) are withdrawn from the area, the press service of the Interior Ministry told ITAR-TASS.

A new demand of the guerrillas consists in guarantee of their personal safety and a safe passage of the convoys to the Chechen territory accompanied only by units of the Interior Ministry.

The press pointed out that the terrorists themselves have not fulfilled any of their promises and first of all have not freed the hostages on the Chechen border, as it had been agreed before. Moreover, they took hostage police officers and some residents of Pervomayskoye. The villagers are quitting Pervomayskoye after terrorist leader Salman Raduyev threatened to reduce the village to ashes.

Residents of Makhachkala, Khasavyurt and Kizlyar, including ethnic Chechens hold rallies of protest demanding a severe punishment for the terrorists, the press service said.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the Dagestani Interior Ministry told ITAR-TASS that the guerrillas are digging in around the convoy of busses in the snow-covered steppe and are setting up positions for defence in few village houses adjacent to the highway.

Both groups of terrorists, in the village and around the convoy, are equipped with assault rifles and grenade launchers and seem to be well organised ready for defence, the source said.

The area is sealed off by federal troops while up to six helicopter gunships are constantly in the air over the village.

The temperature is minus 5 degrees Centigrade in the area and a strong wind is blowing. The hostages taken in the Kizlyar hospital have been staying in the buses for all the time and their state of health is not known. It is also unclear whether the terrorists had fed them. On Wednesday residents of the nearby village of Aksai tried to pass them food and warm cloths. They are likely to repeat their attempts today.

Pervomayskoye is a small village of up to 30 houses situated some 10 kilometres from the Dagestani-Chechen border.

Dagestan Minister on Hostage Crisis

LD1101111996 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1112 GMT 11 Jan 96

[By Gadzhi Shamov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MAKHACHKALA, Dagestan capital, January 11 (ITAR-TASS) — Hope appeared that hostages will be released, at long last, when representatives from the International Red Cross and foreign journalists come to the village of Pervomayskoye. Magomed-Salikh Gusayev, the Dagestan Minister for Nationalities and Foreign Affairs, said in an interview with ITAR-TASS here on Thursday.

Gusayev volunteered to become a hostage, along with other prominent republican figures, in exchange for about 3,000 hostages whom Chechen rebels freed before their departure from Kizlyar.

Rebels took Gusayev and other prominent hostages from Kizlyar to Pervomayskoye (situated on the border with Chechnya) and released them there.

He said that the state of about 200 people who are still being held hostage by terrorists, is not good, but they try to look "alive and kicking".

Here are extracts from the interview:

Q: What is the situation now near the village of Pervomayskoye?

A: Chechen rebels continue to hold our hostages from among civilians. They added to them 37 policemen who were dispatched to the Dagestan Interior Ministry from Novosibirsk and who manned a check point near the village of Pervomayskoye.

The convoy is encircled by federal troops.

Q: What is their strength?

A: I cannot tell the exact number, but there are many of them. Dozens of helicopters landed in the field around Pervomayskoye. There is much armour.

Q: How do the talks proceed, and why are they dragging feet?

A: An understanding was reached in Kizlyar from the very beginning that we would give a chance to Chechen rebels to leave Dagestan unimpeded with hostages who would be freed in the Chechen republic.

However, the convoy was stopped and surrounded by federal troops at the approach to the border near the village of Pervomayskoye. They also include the Alfa group. We understood the danger of a military clash which would inevitably had resulted in numerous losses among civilians.

To prevent this, the Dagestan leadership held several consultations with Viktor Zorin, deputy chief of the Russian Federal Service, and other officials who came to that place.

Q: What is the difficulty? Why does the convoy with terrorists and hostages still stand near Pervomayskoye?

A: The main difficulty is 37 policemen captured by gunmen at the check point. The military demand their immediate release. Salman Raduev (Eds: Raduev is ringleader of rebels who is son-in-law of separatist leader Dudayev) promises to release them after a meeting with representatives from the International Red Cross and foreign journalists.

They are now en route to Pervomayskoye, and I believe that we can hear positive results soon.

Q: How do hostages feel, what do they eat and where did they sleep?

A: All hostages were taken from buses at night and accommodated at the local village school and the mosque. Their morals [as received] are not very good, but they try to look alive and kicking. Residents from neighbouring villages bring them foodstuffs and warm clothing.

Adequate medical and psychological aid is rendered to all who need it. There are not many women and children among hostages, and there are no infants at all.

Commenting at the end of the interview on press reports that clashes between Dagestan and Chechen citizens are possible, Gusayev said: "I believe that this will not happen. Dagestan people have enough patience and wisdom to tell bandits from civilians. Bandits have no nationality.

Hostages Remain on Buses, State of Health Unknown

LD1101042396 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0404 GMT 11 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW January 11 (ITAR-TASS) — The convoy with Chechen terrorists and 160 hostages has been held in the snow-covered Dagestani steppe at the small village of Pervomayskoye for nearly a whole day so far. The temperature is minus 5 degrees centigrade in the area and a strong wind is blowing.

The hostages have been staying in their buses for all the time and their state of health is not known. It is also unclear whether the terrorists had fed them. A spokesman of the Dagestani Security department told TASS that the terrorists do not allow anyone close to their convoy of 11 buses and two trucks.

Talks between the terrorists and the Dagestani authorities, headed by republican leader Magomedali Magomedov, have been held with short breaks in an open field beginning from the moment when the convoy was halted near Pervomayskoye at 10:00 hours on Wednesday. TASS learned that representatives of federal Interior troops deployed there also participated in the talks.

The Russian military insist that all the hostages should be freed by Chechen terrorists on the border between Dagestan and Chechnya, as it had been agreed yet in Kizlyar. Pervomayskoye is situated some 10 kilometres from the border. It is a small village with some 20-30 houses.

"The main demand advanced by the federal troops command is that all captured people be released on the border with Chechnya", Russian commander in the rebel republic Vyacheslav Tikhomirov told TASS by telephone on Thursday.

The terrorists, whose number is estimated at 250, demand a safe passage across the border and further in Chechnya.

It is hard to get any detailed information from Pervomayskoye as the village has no telephone lines and has been sealed off. Dagestani officials contact the capital of Makhachkala by radio and in order to call Moscow they had to travel 35 kilometres to the town of Khasavyurt.

As for 06:30 hours Moscow time [0330 GMT] the situation at the hostage drama scene has not changed. It is believed that new developments can take place at dawn which sets in in Dagestan from seven to eight o'clock in the morning [0400-0500 GMT].

Minister Mikhaylov Pledges To Punish Chechen Fighters

LD1101110096 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1040 GMT 11 Jan 96

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Artem Protasenko, Gennadiy Yezhov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 11 Jan (ITAR-TASS) — The Dudayevite terrorists who have taken hostages in Kizlyar "will eventually be punished in accordance with the universal norms of fight against terrorism," Vyacheslav Mikhaylov, Russian minister for nationalities and regional policy, said today. He told journalists that the armed bandits, both those in Chechnya and those who have committed the terrorist act in Kizlyar, are "not freedom fighters but criminals, the overwhelming majority of whom are mercenaries ready to take any steps."

At a Russian Government session today, the Defense and Interior Ministries and the Federal Security Service were represented by deputy heads of these departments. ITAR-TASS learned from well-informed sources in the government that at present the heads of power structures are working intensively to render the terrorists harmless following instructions of the country's top leadership.

Reasons for Raduyev's Pullout from Kizlyar Examined

MM1001200896 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
in Russian 11 Jan 96 p 2

[Report by Mikhail Shchipanov: "Final Explanation"]

[FBIS Translated Text] And so Raduyev's terrorists decided to leave the hospital building at 0800 hours on Wednesday [10 January] without subjecting the city to further destruction and without killing the hostages. Having piled into 11 buses and two of their own trucks — which had reportedly been destroyed — they moved toward the Chechen border, constantly changing their route. Of course, in the tradition of Budennovsk, the bandits "surrounded" themselves with hostages, clearly considering that the presence in the buses of eight prominent Dagestani politicians was an insufficient guarantee of their safety.

But why did they choose to withdraw so quickly? Moscow's firm stance did, of course, play a role —

the bandits got a clear idea that there would be no major concessions now — as did the "mountain flower" diplomacy, where the Dagestani representatives did not mince their words and made it clear to the bandits that "scores" for the spilled blood would be settled with them personally, with their closest relatives, and, indeed, with the Chechens living in the republic. There was no pussyfooting here. In other words the "blood brother" realized that if he succeeded in exporting civil war to his neighbor, then the fellow tribesmen would be not only up against Cossacks, but also against the Lak, Avars, and Kumyks. As a result any Dudayevite base among the Ak-Chechens would be blown up.

It is, however, perfectly possible to assume that the scenario was orchestrated from Dudayev's bunker. Again the concern of the "wolves" about the planned effect has drawn attention to itself.

But on this occasion they would just the same not succeed in disassociating either Dudayev himself or Maskhadov from the bloody action, meaning that instead of scaring their neighbors, the "raid" would only frighten those few sympathizers of the regime who are left in the world.

As a result, thanks to television, Raduyev presented a new "amended" explanation: A planned diversionary action was, he says, carried out, which is why we can leave with "honor." The blood and tears of the innocent are not taken into consideration. There was, it seemed, no longer any mention of all-out blackmailing of Moscow....

The column moved in a formal manner toward the population center of Novogroznenskiy, which lies 50 km from the Chechen capital. However, on past experience we can assume that the bandits will begin to disperse in location X, where a mass rally of local residents will have been organized, and using them as cover, they will attempt to conceal themselves unharmed. However, by the time you have read these words, the "denouement" will already have taken place.

Dagestani Official on Helicopter Attacks on Convoy
LD1001113496 Moscow Radio Rossii Network
in Russian 1000 GMT 10 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Aripov, head of the Dagestani government press center [no first name given as heard], has given us details of the situation with the hostages and the terrorists by telephone.

[Begin Aripov recording] The situation has now deteriorated. The bridge that the rebels were meant to use in order to leave Dagestani territory was blown up. A helicopter appeared above the convoy. The helicopter fired

several times at the convoy. Requests were made several times to end this. The fighters are now demanding to be allowed to pass through the town of Khasavyurt in the direction of Gudermes. The helicopter probably belong to the interior troops. The headquarters set up in Kizlyar has contacted them and asked them not to conduct any negotiations. The fighters are now refusing to release the hostages at the Dagestani border. [end recording]

Helicopters Fire on Convoy From Kizlyar

LD1001222496 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 2000 GMT 10 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] [Announcer] For the second day now the attention of the whole of Russia has been focused on the events taking place in Dagestan. Over to our correspondent:

[Correspondent with video report] As known, early this morning the militants left the town in buses, taking with them just 150 out of the almost 3,000 hostages at the hospital. There is also a group of volunteer hostages made up of deputies, a minister and local journalists.

But in the village of Pervomayskoye the convoy was fired on by helicopters using machineguns and missiles. Thus, the federal troops violated the accords reached earlier giving Raduyev's group the possibility of an unimpeded departure in exchange for the lives of the hostages.

And here is the latest news: virtually all the residents of the village of Pervomayskoye have now left the village and Dudayev's militants have formed a defensive circle. [Video shows masked militants in bus with their weapons; hostages in another bus; volunteer hostages standing outside bus; helicopter gunship circling around; unmasked militants with guns standing outside bus]

Hostage-Takers: We Will Not Kill Innocent People

LD1001204996 Moscow Russian Public Television
First Channel Network in Russian
1800 GMT 10 Jan 96

[Video report by Konstantin Tochilin from Dagestan; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The situation in Kizlyar is already being compared with Basayev's raid on Budennovsk last summer. [passage omitted: correspondent compared the two events and gave an account of today's events]

[Begin unidentified Chechen militant recording, shown outside a bus with hostages] We are not going to kill the innocent. But we are also holding employees of the

Interior Ministry and officers. Naturally, we will kill them if our demands are not met. [end recording]

[Tochilin] The terrorists have demonstrated that it is not easy to fool them. They could easily listen to radio conversations between the military and the militia.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified voice from radio receiver] Grad [code name], follow the convoy closely, over.

[Reply] Message understood: I am to pass on the order to the 501st to follow the convoy closely. [end recording]

[Tochilin] At an impromptu news conference the militants announced that initially hostage-taking had not been part of the plan. According to them, they were carrying out a military operation to destroy a Russian helicopter base. It just turned out that way.

Time passed. Finally, after an hour and a half, two helicopters landed nearby. We were told these were representatives of Dagestan and Russia who had come to hold negotiations. It is not known whether anything was agreed during the talks, but the sides acted strangely afterward. The number of Russian helicopters was considerably increased. From time to time they fired shots, but it was not clear at whom. On the other hand, the militants suddenly turned the vehicles round and went back to Pervomayskoye. They occupied the roadblocks, took up positions, and spread around the village. It became clear why, along with the buses, there was a KAMAZ truck in the convoy: It was carrying weapons. As a result the militants appeared to have simply occupied the village. It seems the local residents took the same view. Many of them just took to their cars and left the village to get out of harm's way. It proved to be the right decision: The village is encircled by the OMON [special purpose militia units], special purpose units, and ordinary troops. The question is: Has everyone managed to leave the village? The answer is: Evidently not. The conclusion is: The number of hostages has automatically increased. [passage omitted: no information yet whether the talks were under way and what was going to happen next] [video shows an aerial view of convoy, militants taking up defense positions, helicopters hovering in the air above the convoy, hostages waving pieces of white material from the buses' windows]

Rebels Demand Bridge Blockade Be Removed

LD1001102296 Moscow *ITAR-TASS in English* 1012 GMT 10 Jan 96

[By Nikolay Zagnoiko and Sharip Asuyev]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] KHANKALA, CHECHNYA, January 10 (ITAR-TASS) — The bus column with Dudayev terrorists and 165 hostages, whom they captured in Kizlyar, stopped near the village of Pervomayskaya, because their way was blocked by a blown up bridge. The rebels are demanding that the bridge should be repaired at once, and they should be given a possibility to go freely to Chechnya. Otherwise they threaten to begin immediately the shooting down of the hostages.

ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Shevtsov reported from Makhachkala with reference to the Federal Security Service of Dagestan that Viktor Zorin, head of the Anti-Terrorism Centre and First Deputy Director of the Russian Federal Security Service, left for the Northern Caucasus to hold talks with the terrorists. The terrorists are demanding additional security guarantees. Specifically, they want to be escorted only by Chechen policemen during their trip by the territory of Chechnya.

Dagestani Official Warns Against Use of Force

LD1001193896 Moscow *INTERFAX in English* 1933 GMT 10 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MAKHACHKALA, Jan 10 (INTERFAX) — Magomed-Salikh Gusayev, the Dagestani nationalities minister, said that force should not be used to stop the convoy of trucks carrying Chechen separatist fighters and hostages from Kizlyar to Chechnya.

Gusayev said on Dagestani television that this was the view of the Dagestani Government.

The Russian authorities are probably planning to use force and this was the reason why the convoy has been delayed for a long time near the village of Pervomayskoye in Dagestan close to the Chechen border, he fears.

Tikhomirov: Situation Does Not Require More Troops

LD1001182096 Moscow *ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian* 1730 GMT 10 Jan 96

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Sergey Ostanin]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 10 Jan (ITAR-TASS) — Commander of the federal troops in Chechnya, Lieutenant General Vyacheslav Tikhomirov, said he is concerned over the fact that not all the hostages taken by Dudayev's terrorists in Kizlyar were freed

during daylight hours today. Speaking on the telephone from Khankala in an interview with the ITAR-TASS correspondent, he said that by 1900 Moscow time, the vehicle convoy with terrorists and their hostages had been blocked near the Pervomayskaya village [stanitsa] on the Dagestan-Chechen border. Talks are under way between the terrorists and representatives of the federal forces. One of the results of these talks was the release of the hostages — members of the parliament and the government of Dagestan.

The commander said that "at present a complex of measures is being carried out to prevent terrorist acts spreading over the whole of the Chechen territory." He said he believes the situation in Chechnya does not necessitate bringing additional units of the North Caucasian military district into its territory.

Lebed Criticizes Government's Handling of Kizlyar

*LD1001171196 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1456 GMT 10 Jan 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Jan 10 (INTERFAX) — General Aleksandr Lebed, one of the leaders of the Congress of Russian Communities, has sharply criticized the Russian authorities' ability to deal with events in the North Caucasus, southern Russia.

The repetition of the June events in Budennovsk in the city of Kizlyar in the southern Russian republic of Dagestan "testifies to the fact that Russia's current authorities are unable to cope with the situation which they themselves have created by provoking a new Caucasian war," he said.

"We see the agony of the rotten state machine, the absolute inability of the ruling authorities to evaluate the situation in the country and draw correct conclusions, to adopt efficient measures," he said in a statement handed to INTERFAX Wednesday.

"While the present government rules in Russia, while the might, authority, competence, and coordination of power structures are not restored, while the system of management in the state as a whole is not restored, there is no guarantee that such tragedies will not be repeated permanently and the people will be hostages of their own politicians," Lebed said.

Yeltsin: Dagestan Has Primary Role in Talks With Rebels

*LD1001134896 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskvy
in Russian 1300 GMT 10 Jan 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] Boris Yeltsin signed an instruction to the effect that the Dagestan authorities them-

selves should conduct talks with the fighters. The president said this in the Kremlin today:

[Begin Yeltsin recording] It was advantageous and tactically correct that talks should be held not at the federal level involving Moscow but by Dagestan itself with the participation of our Interior Ministry and the Security Service. They established contact with them right away and, one must say, they made several warnings and held four powerful rallies, and after that, one must say, the group of bandits toned down its behavior straight away. [end recording]

OSCE Chairman Condemns Terrorist Act in Kizlyar

*LD1001140796 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1404 GMT 10 Jan 96*

[By Sharip Asuyev]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] GROZNY, January 10 (ITAR-TASS) — Chairman of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Flavio Cotti, who is also Swiss Foreign Minister, strongly condemned the terrorist act in Kizlyar.

The visiting OSCE official made a statement to that effect at a special press conference in the OSCE mission in Grozny today.

Cotti stressed that a durable settlement of the crisis in Chechnya could only be achieved through negotiations conducted in an atmosphere of unconditional respect for the territorial integrity and the Constitution of the Russian Federation.

Dudayev Seen Having Free Hand in North Caucasus

*MK1001145296 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA
in Russian 10 Jan 96 p 1*

[Report by Ilya Maksakov: "Budennovsk-Gudermes-Kizlyar. Will the Latter Become a Prelude to the Final Pacification of Chechnya by Force?"]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [passage omitted] At an emergency conference President Boris Yeltsin blamed all power structures for what happened, but chose for his special attack Federal Border Service Director Andrey Nikolayev, whose subordinates, according to the president, "overslept" as the terrorist group moved in. "How should I understand you, generals? Do you think this is kids' play?" the head of state queried sternly. The border guards sought to justify themselves to the best of their ability, stating that in the classical understanding [of the word] there is no border protection system between Chechnya and Dagestan. Moreover, according

to them, the Chechen-Dagestan section of the border on the Kizlyar salient is covered by interior troops.

Be this as it may, it is senseless to blame only the border service for what has happened. Considering the number of troops now concentrated in this region, several dozen border guards, who are in Kizlyar to ensure coordination between the outposts in Caspian border areas, would not have been able to hold back a convoy of two buses and a heavy KaMAZ truck full of armed gunmen.

The president should apparently have asked a different question: What are federal troops doing in Chechnya in the intervals between "disarming" bandit formations? After the joint forces commander was replaced by a Defense Ministry representative many started speaking optimistically about a change in military tactics and an upcoming end to the Chechen war, which should presumably not last for more than six months. Official sources backed up their forecasts with reports about the daily confiscation of several small arms weapons and even Grad multiple rocket launchers. Furthermore, the power structures kept a vigilant eye on "concentrations of gunmen" that from time to time appeared near Chechen settlements. But the unhindered passage by hundreds of Dudayevites through so-called checkpoints to the territory of a neighboring republic has shown once again the helplessness of the troops concentrated in Chechnya and proved that the general situation in the North Caucasus depends not on the actions of the federal troops or the recently-elected local leadership, but on the Dudayevites' wish to occupy a particular settlement at a particular moment. [passage omitted]

At the same time the Dudayevites' actions are becoming more and more incomprehensible. Whereas nobody doubted the sincerity of Shamil Basayev's intentions to "fight a little in Russia," the capture of Gudermes, populated by Chechens, and Kizlyar, located on the territory of a related Caucasian republic, only points to the unpredictability of the rebels' actions. It would hardly be correct to assume that they intend to drag the whole Caucasus into the war. In Makhachkala, immediately after the Dudayevites' action, a spontaneous rally began with people volunteering to help their fellow citizens who had been taken hostage.

Meanwhile, considering Dudayev's continuous statements about his intention to wage a war of attrition and the fact that federal troops have not been particularly worrying their opponents, the supposition that the rebels' actions were prompted by despair in view of a coming end should also be dismissed as improbable. Furthermore, the blood ties connecting the "president of Ichkeria" and Salman Raduyev make highly unlikely the possibility of a split within the Dudayev inner circle

or that the rebel commander is acting of his own free will. [passage omitted]

Khasbulatov Blames Presidential Election for Kizlyar

LD1001155596 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskv in Russian 1300 GMT 10 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Ruslan Khasbulatov, who at the last moment withdrew from the Chechen presidential elections, believes that it was the elections that exacerbated the crisis in the republic and provoked the events in Gudermes and subsequently Kizlyar.

[Begin Khasbulatov recording] It is already the second terrorist act, the second stage of this new war which has flared up because of Doku Zavgayev. Unfortunately, Kremlin politicians tried to impose yet another set of puppets over there. We have an excellent ability to create enemies. One should understand very clearly that Russian troops are over there not in order to defend Russia's territorial integrity but rather in order to protect Zavgayev's puppet authority. Are Russian soldiers and officers prepared to die for Zavgayev? That is the way the question should be formulated today. [end recording]

Khasbulatov believes that the only solution to the crisis is the withdrawal of federal troops from the republic. After this, he thinks, the disarmament of the fighters and elections can be discussed.

Militants Drop Previous Demands; Ask For Buses

LD0901210496 Moscow Radiostantsiya Ekho Moskv in Russian 2040 GMT 9 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The terrorists in Salman Raduyev's group, who seized the hospital in Kizlyar, have dropped all their previous demands and are in talks with the Dagestan leadership to get their fighters out of the town, our correspondent Ilya Pitsin was told by Ali Pasha Akalov, deputy head of the administration of the Dagestan State Council.

[Begin recording] [Akalov] There are no longer any conditions at all. They are demanding 10 buses and two trucks, and we've agreed we'll give them five or six publicly respected persons as hostages.

[Unidentified correspondent] No other conditions?

[Akalov] They've dropped all of them.

[Correspondent] Do you agree to these conditions?

[Akalov] Yes, we've agreed.

[Correspondent] And when is all this planned to take place?

[Akalov] We've agreed to contact them again in 10-15 minutes to discuss embarkation and disembarkation. [end recording]

Ali Pasha Akalov clarified that the rebels are holding about 2,000 hostages at present, and that three policemen and five civilians have died in the town during the day in the shooting.

Militants Barricaded in Hospital; Hostages on Top Floor

LD0901081896 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0813 GMT 9 Jan 96

[By Gadzhi S. ...]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kizlyar January 9 (ITAR-TASS) — Some 70 Chechen militants have seized the hospital in the Dagestani town of Kizlyar and are holding nearly 100 hostages there, a spokesman of the Dagestani Interior ministry told Tass on Tuesday [9 January].

He said the militants have barricaded the doors and the windows of the hospital, are staying themselves on the ground floor and keeping the hostages on top floors. The hostages are heavily guarded, he added.

The spokesman said a part of the militants had left the territory of the hospital and penetrated into the living quarters of the town. The militants seized the bridge over the Terek river which is now under fire from Chechen snipers.

The spokesman confirmed that the militants are headed by Salman Raduyev, 28, the son-in-law of Chechen separatist leader Dzhokhar Dudayev.

The Dagestani leadership arrived in Kizlyar and a special headquarters to deal with the seizure were set up.

Russian Ministry Official Cited on Kizlyar Events

LD0901120196 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 1100 GMT 9 Jan 96

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Text] Our correspondent managed to obtain the first commentary on the events in Kizlyar, in the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs:

[Unidentified correspondent] We were told by the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs information and public relations directorate that Salman Raduyev's gang carried out many crimes against the civilian population by 0830. The gang seized the municipal hospital.

As a result of a battle with the local police and an armored group of Russia's internal troops, six

militants were killed and one was captured, [video shows Aleksandr Furs, head of Russian Internal Affairs Ministry's information and public relations directorate, speaking to camera]

[Begin Furs recording] As for the losses of the Internal Affairs Ministry forces, two local policemen were killed. Taking account of the complexity of the situation, Army General Kulikov, the Russian Federation's Internal Affairs Minister, interrupted his vacation and is personally coordinating operations connected with carrying out the operation in Kizlyar. It was the minister's decision to send a group of Internal Affairs Ministry's officers and employees, headed by Lieutenant-General Petr Mikhaylovich Latyshev, deputy minister of internal affairs, to the scene of the operation. [end recording]

Aleksandr Furs said the bandit group is trying to effect a Budennovsk scenario. Viktor Gafarov, commander of internal troops, aided by special forces subunits, is trying to blockade the militants. [video shows Furs speaking to camera]

[Begin Furs recording] Exchanges of fire are now under way. Measures are being taken, actually, to contain the terrorist activities by existing means and resources. [end recording]

The Internal Affairs Ministry's spokesman thinks the militants are using the same perfidious and inhuman measures that were taken in Budennovsk. [video shows Furs speaking to camera]

[Begin Furs recording] That is precisely what they are counting on — to exacerbate and generally wreck the situation through their perfidious methods of terror. The possibility that their activities will be aimed at striking the biggest possible blow against the civilian population cannot be ruled out. The tactic is the same — battle is waged under the cover of civilians, women, children, and old people. [end recording]

Chechen Rebels Seen on 'Suicide Mission'

LD0901155596 Moscow INFORMATSIONNOYE
AGENTSTVO EKHO MOSKVY in Russian
1450 GMT 9 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] According to what the militants have told the Kizlyar administration, about 3,000 hostages are being held in the Kizlyar central hospital, A. Akalov, deputy head of administration of the Kizlyar town council, told Ekho Moskvyy radio station. He said that before seizing the hospital, the militants went round the houses and rounded up people as hostages.

A. Akalov said that the terrorists themselves say there are 500 of them.

He said people had been killed and wounded both in the town and in the hospital compound as a result of the terrorist attack on Kizlyar, but there are as yet no precise figures.

A. Akalov said that "talks are underway with the hospital over the existing communications line. The town administration is demanding that women and children should be released by this evening, but they are resorting to various pretexts for not doing this yet."

"The terrorists' main demands are the withdrawal of troops from Dagestan and Chechnya, and also the destruction of the helicopter regiment and the military grouping in Kizlyar. If these demands are not met, the militants intend to fulfill General Dzhokhar Dudayev's order to the full, namely to bring about the withdrawal of the federal troops by blackmail, threats, and terrorism," A. Akalov stated. He said that "the militants regard themselves as on a suicide mission."

Yeltsin Attacks Officials for Allowing Kizlyar Events

*LD0901094596 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0935 GMT 9 Jan 96*

[By Andrei Shtorkh]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, January 9 (ITAR-TASS) — President Boris Yeltsin lashed out at the heads of power-wielding structures, opening an emergency meeting in the Kremlin concerning an attack by Chechen rebels on Kizlyar city in the Dagestan Republic bordering on Chechnya and the capture of hostages from among local civilians.

"We have received another blow," the Russian leader stressed, laying the blame for the developments in Kizlyar on the Federal Border Service and its director Andrey Nikolayev.

Chechen Rebels Take Hostages in Kizlyar

*LD0901063996 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 0504 GMT 9 Jan 95*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Gadzhi Shamov]

[FBIS Translated Text] Makhachkala, 9 Jan (ITAR-TASS) — Real military actions have taken place today in the town of Kizlyar in Dagestan (the northern part of the republic). It was reported by the duty officer at the republic's Ministry of Internal Affairs that Chechen armed fighters unexpectedly appeared on the outskirts of the town in the middle of the night. Exactly how many of them there are is not known. A fierce exchange of fire flared up and grenade explosions resounded. In a short time, the armed fighters seized the buildings of the maternity home and town hospital. They are herding the

residents of the surrounding blocks of apartments into them. At the republic's Ministry of Internal Affairs they are not ruling out the possibility that the armed fighters want to replay a variant of the tragedy in Budennovsk.

At the present moment Kizlyar is surrounded by federal troops, the entire staff of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Dagestan is on alert.

Dagestan Ministry Gives Details on Kizlyar Capture

*LD0901072096 Moscow Mayak Radio Network
in Russian 0620 GMT 9 Jan 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] Our correspondent, Anatoliy Fedorov, who is reporting from the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia, will give us some new details by telephone. Go ahead please.

[Fedorov] Indeed, at 0545 [0245 GMT], according to a report that has come in to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Russia from the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Dagestan, a group of armed criminals in masks stormed the town of Kizlyar and began to fire shots at random, drove the residents of the town out of their apartments, and herded them in the direction of the town's hospital. This information came in at 0630.

Further information is the following. I will remind you that this is preliminary information from the duty officer of the Russian Federation Ministry of Internal Affairs. At 0730: military actions are continuing in Kizlyar. The town's central hospital has been seized by the criminals. An attack has been made on the local airport. Two military helicopters belonging to the internal forces of Russia's Ministry of Internal Affairs have been set on fire. The defense of the airport is being carried out.

The radio contact with the town's department of internal affairs has been lost. The bridge across the river Talovka is controlled by the terrorists.

This is the latest information that has come in to Russia's Ministry of Internal Affairs at 0830. The attacks of the armed fighters are being rebuffed by subunits of the internal forces and the militia. Six terrorists have been killed, one has been detained. One serviceman from the internal forces has been wounded. The criminals are driving the residents out of the nearby houses and are herding them into the maternity department of the town's central hospital. The scenario of this terrorist action is reminiscent of the tragedy that occurred in Budennovsk. God forbid that things should go that far.

Zavgayev: Kizlyar Raid Brings 'Shame' on Chechens

*LD0901144396 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1422 GMT 9 Jan 96*

[By Nikolai Zagnoiko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] GROZNY, January 9 (ITAR-TASS) — Doku Zavgayev, the newly elected head of the Chechen state, said that Tuesday's raid of Dzhokhar Dudayev's terrorists on the Dagestani town of Kizlyar, where they took at least 1,000 hostages, has brought "shame on the whole Chechen people."

Zavgayev told ITAR-TASS that the Chechen population was "astonished and indignant" by the attack, and called the terrorists "butchers of the Chechen people."

A joint statement of the Moscow-backed government and Supreme Council (parliament) of Chechnya also condemned the terrorist attack saying that "the attempts to solve problems with terrorist acts against peaceful citizens, medical and state institutions bring shame on the honour and dignity of the Chechen people and its humane traditions."

"We are sure that the terrorist attack in Kizlyar which has nothing to do with the Chechen people, will not affect the traditional fraternal friendship between peoples of Chechnya and Dagestan," the Chechen parliament and government said.

Chechen Leader Zavgayev Condemns Kizlyar Hostage-Taking

*LD0901131796 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service
in Russian 1232 GMT 9 Jan 96*

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Zagnoyko]

[FBIS Translated Text] Grozny, 9 Jan (ITAR-TASS) — Doku Zavgayev, head of the Chechen republic, has called Dudayev's terrorists in Kizlyar "the executioners of the people of Chechnya." He told ITAR-TASS that "the republic is shocked and appalled by the events." He described the actions of the militants who took 1,000 people hostage, as "shameful for the entire Chechen people."

Zavgayev also said that in terms of cruelty, the actions of Dudayev militants can be compared with those in Qadum. Salman Raduyev's band is also operating there, killing civilians and looting.

Raduyev Threatens To Reduce Kizlyar to 'Hell and Ashes'

*LD0901183996 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 1700 GMT 9 Jan 96*

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Announcer] Hello. The Russia TV Vesti program is on the air with a daily news review. Today all the world found out that there is a town called Kizlyar in Russia. [passage omitted covering history of attack and state of affairs in Kizlyar up to the moment over map of Kizlyar area]

We have just received by video from our colleagues a recording of an interview with one of the leaders of the terrorists Salman Raduyev.

[Begin Raduyev recording] We are not carrying out a terrorist action. We were carrying out a planned sabotage military operation to destroy a military facility in the territory of the town of Kizlyar — the Pereval-ochaya helicopter base. According to our reconnaissance information there should have been eight helicopters here yesterday, which should have been bringing ammunition for a group that works in the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria, and our task was to make a massive strike and destroy this military base and the military camp as well.

To our great regret there were only three helicopters and one armored carrier at the helicopter base. This base was completely destroyed in just half an hour under our attacks, and we lingered on in the town for a bit to liquidate the military camp.

Well, military sub-units from two sectors of the armed forces of the Chechen Republic of Ichkeria are participating in this military operation — the northeast sector and the southeast one. This means that besides myself, Colonel Raduyev, commander of the northeast section, Colonel Isrupilov, commander of the southeast section, is taking part in the operation — he is before you on the right. [Raduyev turns his head to the right but nobody is shown]. And though there is no sense, in principle, in talking about the numbers [taking part] and any other aspects of this operation, we can — just for the sake of showing up the lies of the Russian media which report that there are 50 militants here — we can give you the opportunity to count our militants; there are over 500 of them here.

And if we carry out our main task today, and if the federal troops and the government of Dagestan want us to destroy this town here, we can quite easily turn it into hell and ashes. Let us fight to the death. Absolutely. We know where we have come. We are carrying out orders,

we are soldiers of General Dudayev, and we are ready to carry out any of his orders. And what has happened in Budennovsk and Kizlyar will happen again and again until Russia recognizes Dudayev as the president of the Chechen republic of Ichkeria. [end recording] [Video shows Raduyev talking into a microphone, dressed in warm military jacket and woolen hat with a broad green band around his head]

ITAR-TASS Gives Details of Bandit Leader

LD0901182596 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1816 GMT 9 Jan 96

[By Nikolay Zagnoyko]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] GROZNY, January 9 (ITAR-TASS) — A variety of credible sources have provided a depiction of Salman Raduyev, the leader of the bandit group which seized a great number of hostages in the Russian southern republic of Dagestan at dawn Tuesday.

Raduyev, 27 or 28, is a native of the Nozhay-Yurt district of Chechnya. He belongs to the Gordali teip, or tribal clan.

When he was out of school, he was employed as a constructor in Gudermes' trade sector.

He was enlisted in the Soviet army, where he joined the Communist Party. After Raduyev left the army he was a Komsomol functionary, in particular a member of the Chechen-Ingush regional committee of Komsomol, or Young Communists' League.

In 1989, he was made director of the Gudermes centre of workers' unions.

Raduyev is married to the niece of separatist leader Dzhokhar Dudayev, who in June of 1992 made him prefect of Gudermes, Chechnya's second-biggest city. Raduyev ordered the use of deadly force to disperse a public rally in Gudermes in March of 1995, with fatalities.

He formed initial five military battalions of the Dudayev regime, dubbed presidential berets. Later Raduyev set up a sixth battalion which was called Lone Wolf. This seems the connotation of his gang's saying to Kizlyar residents "Wolves have come".

Raduyev is known as one of masterminds and leaders of acts of sabotage in eastern Chechnya and in adjoining Dagestan.

He was wounded in fighting with federal forces.

Until recently Raduyev led a guerrilla faction which included some 30 relatives and 70 supporters of Dudayev.

The "wolves" under Raduyev robbed Chechnya-traversing trains.

Witnesses say Raduyev is cruel and blood-stained. He is known to personally shoot to death a wounded serviceman of federal forces, making a crowd of locals an audience.

War Seen Set To Be Ended by Force After Kizlyar
MK1101131196 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA
in Russian 11 Jan 96 p 1

[Article by Vitaliy Tretyakov, chief editor: "Dudayev Deals a Lethal Blow to Chechnya. The Action in Kizlyar Deprives Chechens of Moral Edge in the War"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The problem of hostages in Kizlyar, which had every chance to become a repetition of the Budennovsk tragedy, a problem that suddenly arose and just as suddenly faded away, only postponed the approaching finale of the Chechen war. Unfortunately, a finale based on the use of force.

It is plainly evident that Moscow is little by little preparing to take the toughest and decisive actions against the armed Chechen formations and their leaders, including Dudayev.

These measures are designed to achieve three main objectives, which can be formulated as one triune goal of getting rid of the Chechen crisis as the key problem of Russia's current domestic policy. Separately, the three objectives look as follows. First, to demonstrate that the head of state, namely, President Yeltsin — once he gets down to business himself — can, unlike his subordinates (and rivals), put a definitive end to the matter. Second, to resolve for the military the problem of "stolen victory." Third, to pacify Northern Caucasus at least for a period before the elections so that no terrorist acts would affect the results of the 16 June vote.

Clearly, these objectives cannot be achieved by April-May by any negotiating process.

True, Moscow's Chechen policy since fall 1991 has been disgusting — there is no doubt about it. But now Moscow and the Kremlin, in particular, are beginning to gain the upper hand in their confrontation with Chechnya in political, public relations, and moral terms. First of all, the reason of it is that increasingly often the Kremlin's disgusting policy pales in comparison with the just as disgusting policy pursued by at least certain Chechen leaders. Budennovsk was the turning point. The dirty act of mass terrorism at a hospital, which was perceived by public opinion as an act of despair on the Chechen part, forced Moscow to give in and to implicitly recognize that the cause of the despair was Moscow's own ill will. But the reproduction of Budennovsk on a mass scale — something the Dudayevites are clearly seeking to do and in which

they nearly succeeded in Kizlyar — is no longer an act prompted by a fit of passion but a deliberate tactic and strategy of fighting the enemy behind the backs of patients, expectant mothers, children, and women. The a priori evident moral authority of the Chechens as of a people fighting for its independence has quickly fizzled out. While the federal troops were accused of showing little mercy to either the enemy (Chechens) or their kinsmen (Russians) during their carpet bombing, the Chechens are taking hostage hundreds and thousands of non-Chechens, first of all, Russians. As a rule, they seize women and children, not armed men.

I am certain that some of those who make decisions on Chechnya in Russia are provoking armed Chechens. But the thing is that the Chechens themselves are easily provoked and appear to have already exempted themselves from any moral responsibility for the consequences of something in which they actively participate.

Meanwhile, let us not forget that Dudayev had an immense, overwhelming edge over Moscow. Effectively throughout this time he has had the moral backing of Russian public opinion, while the Kremlin was deprived of such a backing. Dudayev — and, later, Basayev — have had the opportunity to make assessments of events or actions of the other side at any time through Russian media, including television. Finally, by agreeing to make contact and hold talks with the Dudayevites, several prominent Moscow politicians have effectively become political hostages of Dudayev himself and an outcome of the talks. Expecting that all Moscow bureaucrats would wish to share their fate is either stupidity or the desire to intensify the conflict. Dudayev could exploit even the strange elections in Chechnya so as at least to demonstrate his readiness to search for any — not only bloody — ways out of the crisis, if not to win.

In short, Dudayev enjoyed a moral and political support in the enemy camp that could be squandered only by a person who does not wish or is no longer able to do anything but fight to his own people's complete exhaustion. And he had his way.

Had the Dudayevites seized Dokk Zavgayev's entire administration with him at the head, not the Kizlyar hospital and maternity ward, Russian public opinion would have undoubtedly tacitly approved of that. But the Dudayevites have once again raised their hand against women and children. That was it. From now on no letters by 100 representatives of the Russian intelligentsia (see IZVESTIYA of 6 January of this year) — all the more so because two-thirds of the 100 names no longer represent the first rank — can stop the state machine that can no longer dodge reacting — ruthlessly,

bloodily, and in full measure. And this will be not only the Kremlin's choice but also that of Dudayev.

If it had not been for Kizlyar, a different pretext would have arisen. There is no longer any need to prod the Dudayevites to create it — they will offer it on their own. Afterward, there will be a mass military operation — and a solution to the problem (of course, a simmering conflict will not go away, but it will be evolving according to different laws).

In Moscow, this will have partly predictable and partly unpredictable political consequences. Many people already say that Yeltsin should finally lend weight to his claims to the role of the father of the nation and also exercise his duties as president and commander in chief. How, you may ask? One of the options under consideration is to take over the powers of prime minister. For after Budennovsk Viktor Chernomyrdin ended up being political hostage to Dudayev and Basayev. Another option is to appoint a new prime minister for a period that will be required in order to fully rule out a repetition of Budennovsk or Kizlyar. Naturally, no one will hold telephone talks with such people as Basayev or Raduyev in the presence of television cameras again — even if the president orders to do so.

Is this good or bad? This can be judged in many ways, but most Russian residents will see this as something good. For, in fact, there is no longer any other way out. Dudayev simply failed to realize that he could win everything little by little, but now he is set to lose very much — at one time.

Cossacks Discover Chechen Attack Planned Near Moscow

LD1101120196 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1107 GMT 11 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Jan 11 (INTERFAX) — One of the chieftains of the Tersk Cossack forces has information that Dzhokhar Dudayev's Chechen separatist fighters are preparing for a series of terrorist acts in the town of Vidnoe (near Moscow) as well, a top-ranking employee from Russia's Interior Ministry who preferred to stay anonymous told INTERFAX Thursday.

The Interior Ministry and other power structures have already undertaken appropriate measures to prevent terrorist acts both in the Moscow region and in other Russian cities at vitally important and energy sites, and at large industrial enterprises, he said.

"One can expect everything from Dudayev, if one remembers his words that a more important event than

that in Kizlyar will take place in the near future," the source said.

The corresponding services of Russia's Federal Security Bureau, Main Interior Department and Defense Ministry have been informed about this message from the Cosack chieftain, he reported.

Economic Issues

Chernomyrdin Addresses Central Bank Employees
LD1001180296 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1549 GMT 10 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MOSCOW, Jan 10 (INTERFAX) — In 1996 the Russian Government should slow down growth in prices, fulfill the federal budget consistently and completely, improve the financial situation of enterprises and stimulate highly-efficient investments, Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin said today.

Growth in prices must be slowed down to 20-25 percent per year in 1996, Chernomyrdin told employees of the Central Bank of Russia in Moscow Wednesday.

The government is mainly criticized for its tight financial and monetary policy which is necessary for defeating inflation, Chernomyrdin said.

He said he realized how difficult and unpopular such a policy was but added that "there is no alternative to it."

With regard to the budget's fulfillment, Chernomyrdin said better collection of taxes, duties and remittances to non-budgetary funds should help resolve this acute problem. Numerous nonpayments, overdue wages and pensions stem from this problem, he said.

To improve the financial situation of enterprises, the government should focus on resolving the nonpayments problem, including nonpayments between the budget, debtors to the budget and the budget sphere, he said.

"Reciprocal reconciliation of debts needs to be carried out urgently," Chernomyrdin said.

The mechanisms for re-scheduling the existing debts between enterprises should be tuned along with carrying out the mutual reconciliation of debts, Chernomyrdin said.

With regard to stimulation of investments, Chernomyrdin said the government must support implementation of efficient and rapid paying off of projects by assuming part of corresponding risks. The government should not wait until the moment when inflation drops to a level acceptable for higher investment activity, he said.

"For this purpose, we will develop the system for distributing state investments and other regulations," Chernomyrdin said.

Another priority for the Russian government is to reach progress in implementation of housing construction programs, Chernomyrdin said. The "Your House" program should be developed and carried out for this purpose, he said. Chernomyrdin said he deemed it especially important to attract individuals' savings by issuing special bonds for individual housing construction.

The government should also focus on restoring Russian savings accounts which depreciated during reforms, Chernomyrdin said. The government has already drafted and submitted to the State Duma a corresponding bill, he said.

Savings are expected to be restored within the scope of a long-term program which is to be funded from "realistic" sources, Chernomyrdin said. The government has already begun looking for funds in order to compensate savings in the next few months after completing necessary technical preparations, he said. Savings will firstly be compensated to elderly people (older than 65 years) and war veterans, he said.

In the near future the government and the Central Bank should concentrate on finishing the drafting of a joint statement on medium-term strategy and the 1996 economic policy, Chernomyrdin said. It is important to sign the statement not later than in early February, he said. This document is needed primarily as a timetable for interaction between the government and the Central Bank and as an "interconnecting point."

With regard to the federal budget's fulfillment in 1995, Chernomyrdin said expenditure had totalled about 275 trillion rubles, or 97 percent of the targeted sum. All money budgeted for paying wages to employees of federal budget-financed organizations will be spent on this purpose, he said.

Yeltsin Chides Ministry Over Combine Plant
MM0901172996 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian
6 Jan 96 pp 1,2

[Feature entitled "Combinegate, comprising editorial introduction entitled "Will the State Support for the Krasnoyarsk Combine Plant Affair Cause a Reshuffle in Moscow?"; report from Krasnoyarsk by Aleksey Tarasov; and Moscow report by Mikhail Berger]

[FBIS Translated Text] At the end of December President Yeltsin was very sharp with the Economics Ministry over the fact that a number of government departments had failed to implement the government decree

on the production of new combines at the Krasnoyarsk Combine Plant.

Yeltsin even used the now-exotic term "saboteurs," who, according to the president, have turned up in the Economics Ministry, and he instructed the premier to strengthen this ministry.

It is a pity, course, that the countryside is not going to get new combines. But the question is: Why was the president so irate about the fact that one of many plants had not received centralized investments? Why is it for this particular plant that he is prepared to cause the heads of top Moscow officials to roll even though, as is known, the combine plant is by no means the only one craving budget money.

IZVESTIYA is trying to unravel this situation.

[Tarasov report] Krasnoyarsk — At the end of last year a spontaneous rally was held outside the entrance to the Krasnoyarsk Combine Plant joint-stock company — working people angry about the pay delays. Journalists were told that patience had run out when one of the workers fainted from hunger.

It was difficult to find out how true this grim story was. Georgiy Mikhaylov, assistant general director of the company, told IZVESTIYA that the problem was farfetched and the rally was a provocation. But Mikhaylov refused to answer specific questions about what the plant owed its working people, for how many months pay had been delayed, and how many days a week the plant was operating, explaining that the plant was now private and would scarcely benefit from having information of this kind in a newspaper.

Moreover, the plant leadership is convinced that the problems of their joint-stock company should be a headache not for private individuals and corporate bodies owning the enterprise, but for the state. That agricultural machine building should not be left to the "whim of fate." And it is perfectly possible to use budget funds to support it. Obviously it is much easier to convince the state's top people of this than to try to find private investors and bankers who will have faith in the effectiveness of the combine builders' projects and provide credit for them.

Honored citizen of Krasnoyarsk Lev Loginov, general director of the Krasnoyarsk Combine Plant, one of the most influential managers in the kray, although he has repeatedly clashed with the Finance Ministry, has nonetheless, according to him, always found Yeltsin, Chernomyrdin, and Soskovets sympathetic. So the plant has received preferential credits. One year ago there was a government directive approving a proposal granting the Krasnoyarsk Combine Plant an interest-free loan

of \$150 million to set up the production of rubber-reinforced caterpillar tracks. To pay back the credit, which was to have been provided by a Western bank called Balkar Trading, a Russian-British joint venture obtained a license to supply eight million tonnes of oil to the U.S. Mobil Oil company in 1995-1996.

IZVESTIYA has followed the emergence and development of this project and has described its nuances more than once. So there is obviously no need to mention one of the most sensational scandals of last year, linking the "Balkar" joint venture's impressive successes in the oil business with the names of two people who were the top men in the General Prosecutor's Office at the time — A. Ilyushenko and V. Uzbekov. The "Balkar" joint venture was exporting oil on the pretext of providing for state needs. This cover, which was inexplicable from the purely economic viewpoint, enabled this firm to exploit considerable advantages. The way things are at the moment, exclusive mechanisms can always be found for elected people and also for those "providing for state needs." The classic example of this lobbying is the project linking "Balkar," Mobil, and the Siberian combine builders. It also has little in common with the rules and laws of regular, non-nomenklatura business. It immediately raises the question of the strength of the ties linking Ilyushenko, originally from Krasnoyarsk, and Loginov, who is from Krasnoyarsk.

Apparently, Ilyushenko and Loginov are not just from the same place. Their families have been on friendly terms for rather a long time. Many people I talked with told me so, in particular former Krasnoyarsk prosecutor Nelli Zhukova (now a State Duma deputy), who was Ilyushenko's boss when he began his career. Nelli Nikolayevna said that to Ilyushenko Loginov was always "Uncle Leva."

Since the beginning of the nineties Loginov has had not just to frequent Moscow on plant business but has effectively lived there. With the breakup of the USSR the most-favored status bestowed on the plant by M. Gorbachev was abolished. Lev Nikolayevich was not able immediately to win the new Russian leadership's sympathy. But in recent years, according to informed sources, Loginov has become very close both to people in the president's entourage and to B. Yeltsin himself. Rational explanations can probably be found for the affairs involving petrodollars and other "exclusive" mechanisms. Nonetheless, there are mechanisms at work here, hidden from public debate and not subject to any controls, and considerations of economic expediency are not crucial to their operation.

But this is just one aspect of the affair. Pavel Ryabukhin, chairman of the Krasnoyarsk Kray administration com-

mittee for industry, conversion, and the fuel and power complex, does not see the state's provision of credits for a private plant as a problem. The problem lies in a different plane — the expenditure of funds needs to be strictly controlled. In an interview with IZVESTIYA Ryabukhin gave some interesting figures. For instance, following the president's visit to the combine plant in summer 1994 40 billion was promised — just for the remainder of the current year. But only nine billion was allocated. According to Ryabukhin, the state owes the combine plant around 600 billion for supplies of agricultural equipment in 1992-1993! At that time the orders whereby the combines were delivered to the countryside still existed. Then the state said: Collect the money from the customers. Ryabukhin cited the following wording used by the state in addressing the combine builders: The government is not obliged to pay you since you were not obliged in 1993 to implement the government's decree. So the most conscientious people, Ryabukhin concludes, were in the worst position. And compared with the state's unpaid debts the credits issued to the combine plant are unimpressive.

Incidentally, the kray administration has prepared a decree on providing the plant with credit and a number of financial mechanisms are being worked out which should improve the plant's position. Apparently, it is not the countryside but the plant that will receive the credit, for which it will pay rural working people with combines.

Ryabukhin believes that the Krasnoyarsk Combine Plant's problems are federal problems.

"In the kray alone peasants' receipts of agricultural equipment are only one-tenth of what they were in 1991," he said. "And unless the question of the resumption of supplies is resolved in the next few years we will simply have nothing to eat. Moreover, we now have to supply twice as much equipment as we did in the best years of Soviet power in order merely to compensate for those that are out of action. Indeed, the combine is obsolete technologically and design-wise. The kind of assemblies used in agricultural equipment have not existed for around 50 years in machine building...." So what can be done?

Loginov's assistant told IZVESTIYA that the state has given nothing for the new "Kedr" combine, which the president liked. The plan for creating an enterprise to produce rubber-reinforced caterpillar tracks has hit problems — certain difficulties with the Japanese, who are refusing to disclose their secrets, indeed it appears that no one has seen any petrodollars in Krasnoyarsk (which was to be expected).

To all appearances, various strange projects are going to appear and there is going to be money floating around the combine plant, but the peasants are soon going to have to dust off their sickles and flails.

[Berger article] Moscow — To begin with, let us specify once again what the Krasnoyarsk Combine Plant constitutes in terms of form of ownership. A total of 51.2 percent belongs to the labor collective, 19.5 percent to the Grant Inkom company, 17.2 percent to the Stromkombank commercial bank, 7.4 percent to investment funds, 1.6 percent to other legal entities, and 1.1 percent to individuals.

In other words, this is an absolutely private enterprise without any state shares whatsoever. Can such an enterprise count on budget investments? In principle, yes, but on the same basis as tens of thousands of other private companies. There is a procedure, ratified by the government, under which contenders for centralized investments put in applications to the Ministry of the Economy. There a special commission examines them, assesses their efficiency, and adopts a decision on participating in the project.

I would stress that this solely concerns participation (an average of 20 percent) in a project, and not its complete funding. Commercial banks and other non-state companies have to take chances with the rest of the money.

But the combine plant could not compete for state investments because it did not take part in the competition. Direct personal contact with the head of state, however, is a great thing. Following Boris Yeltsin's visit to the combine plant in 1994, this enterprise found its way into a government decree which envisaged state support for developing new combines.

But even the Russian government as a rule does not give out money out of the kindness of its heart, but for specific investment plans. The combine plant was unable to present the Ministry of the Economy with any justification for obtaining budget investments by June 1995. So the plant did not come under last year's investment program. In short: Project first, money later. But not the other way round.

The combine plant was asking for money not only for new agricultural equipment, but also for the creation of a brick plant and for the production of enrichment equipment. Later, the plant withdrew these proposals from examination on its own initiative, which also testifies to the quality of preparations for investment projects in Loginov's plant.

There is another channel for obtaining treasury money which Loginov also tried to make use of. This concerns what is known as a budget loan.

Via the president, Loginov asked for a budget loan of 150 billion rubles at a 10-percent annual interest rate. It became clear from the materials in the application for the loan that the plant plans to return the credit over 25 to 30 years. Naturally this kind of request could not be granted, particularly since the rules for granting budget loans have been ratified by a presidential edit. These rules envisage the allocation of short-term credits even at half the Central Bank's discount rate, but by no means at 10 percent.

Offended by the "noxious bureaucrats," Loginov complained to the president, and Yeltsin's sharp reaction was the result. It only remains to find out whether the president will insist on sacking people who are unwilling to violate rules he established himself.

Oil Deal 'Undermining' Russian Interests

MK1101061896 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 10 Jan 96 p 2

[Report by Vladimir Trofimov, doctor of law: "What Do the Caspian Petrodollars Smell Of? By Signing a Contract With Azerbaijan, the Government Is Ignoring Russia's Interests"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Russian Government keeps talking out loud about its next victory: Azerbaijani oil will not be exported via Iran, but through Russia and only partially through Georgia. It might be of interest, however, to get acquainted with some details of this deal.

The draft agreement with Azerbaijan was approved by Russian Government Decree No. 1265, which was issued just recently, on the very eve of the New Year. In accordance with this agreement, Russia undertakes to ensure unimpeded transportation of up to 5 million tonnes of oil per year in transit via its territory, receiving for this approximately \$15 per tonne. Since oil deliveries at first will not be so great, Russia will receive its \$75 million only as late as in 2002. In addition, we assume liabilities to let through our territory to Azerbaijan, unhindered and free of duty, any goods designed for the production and transportation of oil. The agreement does not envision the possibility of being subject to ratification and becomes effective immediately after signing.

It seems there is nothing special about this fact. This looks like an ordinary interstate agreement on economic matters. The background, which has remained beyond the agreement, however, is of interest. It is universally

known that Azerbaijan is extracting oil from the Caspian Sea. In fact, this is a sea only in name, whereas in reality it is a very large lake having, in addition, special legal status. Long ago, agreements were concluded between the USSR and Iran whereby this lake became formally shared by the USSR and Iran. In practice, however, joint ownership manifested itself only with respect to freedom of navigation. The USSR did not encourage the transit of Iranian ships, and especially oil equipment, via the Volga, whereas Iran simply had nothing to mark this joint property with.

After the disintegration of the USSR, all Caspian states, in full compliance with international law, have become legal successors to these Soviet-Iranian agreements, which they themselves confirmed unequivocally in 1992. Soon after that, however, the Azerbaijanis — reasonably enough — decided that it would be more advantageous for them to have the Caspian Sea divided into zones, whereby the entire oil production would be placed under their control. It became clear that the Russian zone turns out to be a tiny one, since its coastline is small, and it would be much more gainful for Russia to continue to regard the whole Caspian as a shared body of water. Russian diplomats attempted to object to Azerbaijan, but did so in a sluggish and mindless way.

It so happened that the only waterway that can be used for transit to China [as published] is the Volga, which runs across Russian territory. Only along this route can heavy oil equipment and ships be brought here. Once the Volga is blocked, both the production of oil and illegal fishing in the Caspian Sea will have to stop rather quickly.

In other words, quite accidentally, we have in our hands a valve which, by turning it off, we can — on completely lawful grounds — bring any Caspian state to its knees and make it respect our opinion. In this context, Russia has a lawful right not only to cut off the Volga, but also — in full compliance with international law — to use force over the whole marine area of this sea. Even the United Nations will be unable to call us to account for such actions, although, naturally, there will be those who will not take this to their liking. Paradoxically, it follows from some Russian-Azerbaijani agreements that, formally, even all of the Azerbaijani oil facilities in the sea are Russian property! This can well be proven in an international court.

The situation from the viewpoint of international law is so obvious that, as recently as half a year ago, after parliamentary hearings on this matter, the Duma without hesitation recommended that the president of Russia use force and put Caspian affairs in order. During the hearings, all of the ministers without exception

supported the necessity of taking resolute measures. The Duma also recommended that a state oil company be created for work in the Caspian, that oil prospecting be started over the whole marine area, that a national park regime be maintained in the Volga estuary, and that border guards and naval forces be used to secure Russian interests.

The recommendations were sent to Boris Yeltsin, since measures had to be taken with respect to the government. The document, however, was not shown to the president. Why it so happened is unknown. Everything was transmitted to the government, which chose not to correct itself. The only result was that the Foreign Ministry started to frame its stance in a slightly more coherent manner.

What, after all, is preventing Russia from having the Caspian problem solved? Is this the fact that Chernomyrdin used to work in the oil industry? Or that there are relatives of Azerbaijani President Aliyev among LUKoil's leaders? Or else, can this be linked with the fact that the United States is for having the Caspian divided into sectors, wishing — for understandable reasons — to rule and divide? Probably all of these factors are involved to some extent.

Let us come back, however, to the agreement with Azerbaijan. As we all know now, it is simple and brilliant, in a way: In exchange for several tens of millions of dollars, it guarantees the Azerbaijanis that Russia will never block transit via the Volga of any amount of goods designed for the production and transportation of oil. It turns out that we are voluntarily depriving ourselves of the only means of coercion. In plain words, this means that Russia is generously giving the entire Caspian Sea to its southern neighbors as a gift. If Azerbaijan has a sector, then both Iran and Turkmenistan, as well as Kazakhstan, will also have one. Someone in our government, at the last moment, seems to have decided to make a good present to his oil friends.

The authors of this truly immortal masterpiece have invented a rather artless cover, too. When signing, Russia will make a unilateral statement, saying that from then on it will regard this agreement as not undermining its position on the Caspian. Not a bad bargain — to give up a real lever of control in exchange for the right to give someone the finger behind his back. As is known, unless you can make someone respect your opinion, any expressive monologues will hardly help either.

Lawyers working for the oil industry are well paid. They, however, must not have been very attentive while reading the recently adopted Law on International Agreements. The Duma foresaw that such sorry agree-

ments might appear and envisioned the mechanism for their cancellation, even if this runs contrary to the wish of the executive branch — the more so since this agreement, on all counts, should be subject to ratification and, moreover, was already submitted, nearly in the same form, for ratification by the Russian Supreme Soviet. And, naturally, it was a complete flop.

Lukoil Clinches Deal To Open Subsidiaries in Moldova

*MM0901113096 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA
(Departmental Supplement Section) in Russian
6 Jan 96 p 9*

[Unattributed report under the "Business Diary" rubric: "Lukoil Subsidiary Enterprises"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The Moldovan Government is going to help the Lukoil company to set up subsidiary enterprises on the republic's territory. This is envisaged in the agreement on cooperation between the Republic of Moldova Government and the Russian oil company Lukoil signed in Moscow in December 1995. The sides reached agreement on joint operations in the refining, transport, and sale of oil and petroleum products in the domestic and foreign markets and on the production and supply of oil industry equipment and machine building output.

Fuel Minister on Sector Economics, Management

*MM0901140496 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI
in Russian 6 Jan 96 p 5*

[Unattributed interview with Fuel and Energy Minister Yuriy Shafranik under "Sore Point" rubric; date, place not given: "There Are Many Rumors and Conjectures on the Subject of Oil, Fuel and Energy Minister Yuriy Shafranik Believes"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI] Yuriy Konstantinovich, you recently returned from a business trip around the petroleum-extracting regions. What are the year's results in the sector?

[Shafranik] To be very brief, taxes and nonpayments are continuing to stifle petroleum extraction. I have held several conferences and participated in sittings of boards of directors at a number of oil companies. The general opinion is that the right direction has been chosen for the development of the sector, but the general economic situation, and in particular the taxation system, is placing the oil enterprises in unbelievably difficult conditions. Whether they are paid or not, the oilmen are obliged to extract and supply petroleum. They are obliged to pay taxes irrespective of whether the customers have paid them or not. Unless this situation is

changed, it will have a boomerang effect on all sectors without exception, and on every family.

[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI] The Nizhnevartovsk oilmen have recently been accused of concealing income. What can you say about this?

[Shafranik] There have always been many rumors and much conjecture on the subject of oil. If there are any violations or crimes in our sector, and I do not rule this out, then the law enforcement organs and fiscal organs must be brought in. They are the experts. The ministry is mainly responsible for production issues. In Nizhnevartovsk everyone knows that during the years of the exploitation of the Samotlor deposit \$209 billion worth of petroleum was extracted, but only 25 billion was spent on capital investments and working the oil fields. And now, when the volume of extraction has fallen by a factor of almost 10, the oilmen and population have been left with nothing. People have not been paid their wages since September.... I am convinced that general standards should not be applied to this unique deposit and its powerful extracting complex. The rate of its development has no counterpart in world practice. You just have to look at the dynamics of the increase in extraction over the years. We have

made a number of proposals on Nizhnevartovsk to the government, and First Vice Premier Chubays recently held a conference, but no decision has yet been made.

[ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI] The Federal Power Commission was formed recently, which has the right to regulate the activity of the natural monopolies and powers to run the main pipelines. What is your attitude to the appearance of yet another regulatory body?

[Shafranik] We ourselves initiated the creation of this commission in place of price committees. The leadership of the Ministry of Fuel and Energy continues to believe that the prices of monopoly output and of electricity should be regulated. However, the final decision may prove to be insufficiently accurate. After all, it is one thing to regulate the activity of natural monopolies by economic methods, and quite another to create some kind of management body with enormous powers which bears no responsibility for the state of specific enterprises. As minister, I am opposed to that option. Although the question has not been settled yet. I hope that we will not end up with the worst-case scenario of a revival of the sectoral state planning committee.

International Affairs

Ukraine To Exchange Warheads for Russian Nuclear Fuel

LD1001202896 *Moscow ITAR-TASS in English*
2005 GMT 10 Jan 96

[By Mikhail Melnik]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] KIEV, January 10 (ITAR-TASS) — Ukraine will transfer to Russia 26 per cent of its nuclear warheads in 1996 in exchange for fuel for its nuclear power plants under the START-1 strategic arms reduction treaty, Ukrainian Defence Minister Valeriy Shmarov said at a press conference on Wednesday.

Shmarov also added that this issue is more of technical rather than political nature. "Ukraine simply needs nuclear fuel for its nuclear power stations", the minister said, summing up the results of a meeting between the leaders of the power departments of Ukraine, Russia and the United States held in Kiev.

According to Shmarov, the parties have admitted that Ukraine has fulfilled its obligations concerning nuclear disarmament in full. Ukraine has no complaints against Russia and the United States.

At the same time, he noted that Russia has not paid for the losses incurred by the removal of tactical weapons from Ukraine in 1992. He said that this issue was discussed during negotiations with Russian Defence Minister Pavel Grachev.

The sides came to the conclusion that the problem should be referred to the CIS leaders who will gather for their meeting in Moscow on January 19.

Shmarov said that the division of the Black Sea fleet has also been included in the summit's agenda. He said that 80 per cent of the units are set and ready for a transfer. Russia's plans to establish its navy base in Sevastopol and mutual payments are top the list of issues to be discussed in Moscow.

Shmarov on Warheads, Perry Meeting

WS1101095496 *Kiev UKRINFORM in English*
0801 GMT 11 Jan 96

[From the "Current Events" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] At a press conference in Kiev on Wednesday, January 10, Defense Minister Valeriy Shmarov said that for Ukraine to hold on to its ICBM missile silos and nuclear warheads, with no possibility whatsoever of maintaining and utilizing them, would be a reckless adventure.

Summing up his January 4 and 5 meetings with U.S. Secretary of State for Defense, William Perry, and the

Russian Defense Minister, Pavel Grachev, Mr. Shmarov stated that Ukraine, along with its partners in the nuclear club, has agreed to reduce its nuclear arsenal by a third under the START-1 provisions but not those under the START-2 agreement, which has no limits set as of yet.

Mr. Shmarov also said those Ukrainian politicians who have argued against Ukraine's nuclear disarmament, should remember that the Ukrainian parliament ratified START-1 and announced Ukraine's decision to become a nuclear-free non-aligned nation. This, as Mr. Shmarov pointed out, resulted in Ukraine getting international guaranties of its security, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and border inviolability.

As the Defense Minister stressed, the Defense Ministry has been carrying out precisely those tasks which have been set by the nation's political leadership. Therefore, any accusations leveled against the Ministry are pointless.

According to Mr. Shmarov, the dismantling of the missile silo in Pervomaysk on January 1, helped demonstrate techniques for missile silo demolition that are both technically safe and economical.

So far, some \$270 million of the \$350 million Nunn-Lugar fund, has already been spent on making nuclear reactors safer in Ukraine, Mr. Shmarov said, which, in real terms, is not money but equipment supplies, contractual work, and so on.

Commenting on the likely use of ICBM silos for peaceful purposes, Mr. Shmarov added both William Perry and Pavel Grachev hold the opinion that they cannot be converted into anything useful, although in the United States some ICBM silos have been preserved as sort of "cold war museums". An ad hoc governmental commission trying to find a sensible solution to the silo problem, but, in the meantime, efforts are being made to recover all valuable materials and parts from the silos earmarked for dismantling.

Mr. Shmarov also stated that the problem of social welfare for the ICBM personnel and their families was another important issue. According to his figures, about 7,000 apartments are being constructed in Khmelnytsky, and about half of the planned amount of cottages for the ICBM personnel have been completed in Pervomaysk. In total, some \$60 million will be spent on social welfare for the ICBM personnel, Mr. Shmarov told the press conference.

Defense Minister: Position on NATO Coincides With Russia

LD1001223596 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1534 GMT 10 Jan 96

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Mikhail Melnik]

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev, 10 January (ITAR-TASS) — "The positions held by Ukraine and Russia with regard to NATO coincide to a certain extent. Just like Russia's Defense Minister Pavel Grachev, I consider that every state should take care of its own defense." That's what Ukraine's Defense Minister Valeriy Shmarov said today in reply to a question from the ITAR-TASS correspondent about the positions held by the Ukrainian and Russian defense ministries towards NATO after the recent trilateral talks in Kiev.

Valeriy Shmarov said that the Russian minister's statements on this subject are more radical as he considers that NATO's advance eastwards could threaten Russia's national interests. The Ukrainian defense minister does not see such a threat for his own country.

Replying to a question from the ITAR-TASS correspondent about how he regards the proposals made by Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev about the possibility of setting up a military bloc of Slav peoples, Valeriy Shmarov replied that he did not rule this out for the future. "It is possible that in the future we shall arrive at some military cooperation," the head of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry said.

Official Discounts 'Combat Actions' by Troops in Bosnia

AU0801100496 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 5 Jan 96 p 2

[Unattributed report: "Ukrainian Faces Among Peacekeepers"]

[FBIS Translated Text] The political decision adopted at the end of last year by the Ukrainian leadership on the participation of the Ukrainian military contingent in the international peacekeeping forces, tasked with the implementation of the Dayton accords on the former Yugoslavia, attests to the consistency of Ukrainian policy in the region.

This was stated at a briefing in Kiev by Yuriy Serheyev, head of the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry information administration.

According to the diplomat, in the near future, "the NATO leadership itself must decide how the Ukrainian peacekeepers may be used." Yu. Serheyev underscored that Ukrainian troops would not be used directly in combat actions.

In accordance with INTERFAX reports, there is no need to get an additional Supreme Council decision for the Ukrainian contingent's participation in the new peacekeeping operations in the former Yugoslavia. The UN Security Council has changed the status of the UN peacekeeping forces in Bosnia-Herzegovina and has passed them over to the NATO command.

However, the Supreme Council itself will finally determine its position on this issue.

National Affairs

Nuclear Safety Minister Interviewed on Chernobyl
WS1001141396 Kiev INTELNEWS in English 0013 GMT 10 Jan 96

[Interview with Ukrainian Minister of Environmental Protection and Nuclear Safety Yuriy Kostenko by Andriy Yevtushenko; place and date not given; first two paragraphs are INTELNEWS introduction; from the "Economic Review" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Western Countries have finally acknowledged they would have to up their ante in helping close the Chernobyl nuclear facility, according to the latest round of negotiations in Canada last month. But agreement in principle is far from knowing the answers to such questions, among them: Who will pay for an energy plant to make up for the loss in power generation capacity? Who will finance reconstruction of 800 radioactive waste repositories in the Chernobyl contaminated zone that's expected to take a decade?

Ukraine's Environmental Protection and Nuclear Safety Minister Yuriy Kostenko headed Ukraine's delegation in Canada and has been a key player in negotiations with members of the Group of Seven Industrialized Countries since December 1994. In an interview with Economic Review, Kostenko discussed negotiations but emphasizes that while accords have been signed, solutions to expensive problems remain obscure.

[ER] Closing Chernobyl is being discussed at the highest political levels, but specific solutions have yet to be reached. Do you see progress?

[KOSTENKO] Of course. Previously talks touched upon the safe closure of the plant and setting certain terms. Now the process has a specific economic direction and we've conducted talks about urgent and concrete assistance to Ukraine.

Meanwhile, Ukraine agreed to start the process of closing Chernobyl on condition that Ukraine would be provided with appropriate financial and technical assistance to construct compensatory capacities, storehouses for the spent nuclear fuel and nuclear waste

products, reconstruction of the "shelter" project into an ecologically safe construction, and welfare problems regarding the population of Slavutych.

As one of the alternatives to these questions, the Ukrainian government offered to construct near Slavutych a plant that would provide additional energy to compensate for the closed nuclear reactors, create new jobs, and help finance work on the "shelter." The significant part of income from the sale of energy produced by a new plant could be directed to the Chernobyl program. By this we could create the mechanism of financing the Chernobyl closure because we can't rely on the budget money.

[ER] Would you outline the Canadian talks? What were the main points?

[KOSTENKO] Once again, the Ukrainian side emphasized that the wide-scope program to close Chernobyl, a great financial expense, is possible only if foreign partners provide adequate assistance. Taking into consideration that closing Chernobyl and constructing a new shelter is not a profitable business, our delegation insisted on financial assistance in the form of grants.

We also mentioned that the amount of technical assistance offered by the West doesn't even correspond to the amount of expenses needed to work out the technical documentation. So further progress is only possible when G-7 confirms its obligations regarding the amount of money to be allocated to the Chernobyl program.

Ukraine signed certain agreements with G-7 countries on mutual obligations, principles of cooperation, sources and mechanisms of financing the measures included in the plan of activities.

Besides that, the delegations reached an agreement referring to the main question — the principle of financing the program to shut down the nuclear plant.

Conference delegates decided to divide all the projects into two categories: profitable and unprofitable. The first are to be financed at the expense of long-term privileged credits of Western and Ukrainian financial institutions, and the second are to be financed at the expense of grants from G-7 countries.

[ER] At the 39th session of the International Atomic Energy Agency General Conference in Vienna, the Ukrainian delegation met representatives of the United States who, despite other G-7 representatives, support building the heat plant. Did this fact influence negotiations?

[KOSTENKO] The head of U.S. delegation, U.S. Secretary of Energy Hazel O'Leary, emphasized the U.S.

desire to support the partnership of solving Chernobyl problems.

According to O'Leary, Ukraine has a realistic plan. As an expert, she considers the idea of building a gas-steam heat plant rational. At the same time, the U.S. delegation could not offer anything concrete because the decisions have to be approved in association with other G-7 countries. Saying that she needs to become acquainted with details, O'Leary promised to take this under her personal control.

Members of the Ukrainian delegation reminded the conference that actually Ukraine has already begun to fulfill its obligations to close the plant by refusing to put into operation the second reactor, scheduled for the first quarter of 1996, and suspended long-term measures to increase the reactor's security level.

According to preliminary agreements, we counted on receiving money — or at least the G-7 strict financial obligations regarding the realization of activities plan — during the summer. At the Canadian meeting, Ukraine's delegation rebutted Western claims that Ukraine can't chose the final method of closing Chernobyl. The Ukrainian position remained unchanged: we would build a gas-heat plant with grants and the rest of expenditure would be financed by Ukraine, or money would be allocated in the form of grants for closing Chernobyl and for the new "shelter" project, but the question of energy compensation has to be solved.

Ukraine's delegation stressed, along with President Leonid Kuchma's letter to the executives of G-7 countries, that if appropriate assistance is lacking, Ukraine reserves the right to act according to economic circumstances in the state.

[ER] What are the alternatives?

[KOSTENKO] Different proposals are being discussed. For instance the State Nuclear Energy Committee proposes to reconstruct the Chernobyl reactors, the Energy Ministry proposes to use heat or hydroelectric energy.

The final decision must be approved by government and president.

[ER] Currently, about 800 radioactive waste repositories — sepulchers — are in the Chernobyl radioactive zone, and their radiation is spread by underground water. Does the program of decontaminating the zone continue and what is its future?

[KOSTENKO] About 95 percent of all Ukrainian radioactive waste is in the Chernobyl zone, including that waste situated in the broken reactor, that situated around it, and that situated in sepulchers in the zone. There

are more than 800 temporary radioactive waste product repositories built in 1986 for temporary storage of radioactive waste. Their total volume amounts to 1 billion cubic meters and the total radiation activity in the zone is 0.4 million curie.

Even on condition financing is stable and sufficient, work to sort, stabilize and re-bury the radioactive waste would take more than a dozen years. The program of cleaning the zone exists and is based on the law for treating radioactive waste. It was not carried out due to lack of funds.

Meanwhile, seeking a way out from the situation, we're trying to attract Western companies to build special dry sepulchers where the spent fuel may be stored for 40 to 50 years.

But it's always the same the problem: lack of money.

Crimean Communists Call For Restoration of USSR
WS1001113796 Kiev INTELNEWS in English
0202 GMT 10 Jan 96

[By Lilia Budzhurova, "Special to INTELNEWS"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Simferopol, Jan. 9 — Crimea's Communists have adopted a wide-ranging program calling for restoration of the Soviet Union, state status for the Russian language and opposition to the draft Ukrainian Constitution proposed by President Leonid Kuchma.

The peninsula's Communists, at a Tuesday (9 January) joint meeting of their party's Presidium with all deputies elected to local councils under the red banner, listened to their leader, Leonid Hrach, say that the action had as its main goal the avoidance of possible armed conflict in Crimea.

Hrach also demanded the recall of the Crimean Parliament, accusing it of having destroyed the region's economy and handing power over to "criminals."

The Communist leader also said that his party will "be at war with Kuchma" because "the president, who deceived the people, including the Communist Party, also deceived Crimea." He called the current course of the Ukrainian government "a joining of a cruel anti-Communism and a fierce independence" and expressed hope that the Ukrainian Parliament "won't be the president's friend." Hrach predicted that most Crimean citizens would approve of the idea to recall the Crimean legislature, and expressed his confidence that Communists in the peninsula had enough strength to "take power" and form a new Parliament and government.

Hrach also hailed the recent impressive showing of the Communist Party in Russian Duma elections, saying

that it had already "had a favorable influence on the political life of Ukraine and Crimea." I hope that the "first political decree of newly elected Duma will be the denunciation of Belovezhsk treaty" recognizing Ukrainian independence, he told delegates to the conference.

Party leaders also told journalists that they plan "to hold in Moscow on Lenin's birthday, April 22, an all-Union Communist deputies congress "for the new powerful impulse of organized working struggle against the restoration of capitalism and for the restoration of the USSR."

"Communists form about 40 percent of deputies in local and regional Crimean Councils" and "10 city and regional councils of the peninsula are headed by Communists," according to the party declaration.

"In the current social and economic situation of Ukraine and our peninsula, the Communist Party's concrete task becomes the effort to mobilize the workers, peasants and intelligentsia in Crimea for the faster restoration of the USSR; the organization of mass-protest actions against adoption of the draft Constitution of Ukraine and the development of a mass working movement for the Crimean Parliament's dismissal," the declaration states.

PERC, Communists Seen Calling Shots in Crimea
MK1001141096 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI
in Russian,
No. 1, 1-14 Jan 96 (Signed to press 9 Jan 95) p 9

[Report by Vyacheslav Savchenko from Simferopol: "A Few-Party System"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Changes are pending in Ukraine's legislation whereby effectively all Crimean parties will be excluded from the power struggle. Only the Party of the Economic Revival of Crimea [PERC], which has a nation wide status, and the Communists can remain on the peninsula's political arena.

The PERC congress, which took place on New Year's eve, was more reminiscent of a crime bosses' gathering: Many of its participants had a past far from spotless, from the point of view of the law. Nor was there a shortage of high-muck-a-mucks. Rarely did a plenary session of the Supreme Soviet see such a quorum as that at the PERC congress. And the Crimean government was present at it almost en masse.

The dominant subject of presentations was how the PERC envisions the "spiritual and economic revival of Ukraine" as a presidential republic. The addressee of this statement is unmistakable: With the departure of Crimea's Premier Anatoliy Franchuk, government reshuffles are becoming inevitable, and the final word will be with Leonid Kuchma.

The congress of Communist deputies at all levels, which took place at the time, more resembled a congress of victors. In the local summer elections the Communists scored an impressive victory, when they won 431 mandates overall. This is more than all the other parties put together.

In the near future, the political situation in Crimea will follow the scenarios proposed by the PERC and the Communists. The bloc of democratic forces will not put up any competition: It has neither funds nor access to mass media, nor reliable allies in Ukraine or Russia.

Justice Minister Calls For Increased Role

WS1101095796 Kiev INTELNEWS in English
0141 GMT 11 Jan 96

[By Oleksandr Pukhov, "Special to INTELNEWS"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev, Jan. 10 — Justice Minister Serhiy Holovaty, marking his first hundred days in office, called upon his ministry to be the principle government body responsible for creating new laws.

Holovaty told journalists Wednesday [10 January] that the Justice Ministry intends to submit a bill to Parliament this month clarifying its functions and asserting its role in the legislative process.

"The ministry has to change its function in the system of state governing bodies and in the system of all democratic institutions," said Holovaty, who also heads the Ukrainian Legal Foundation.

The Justice Ministry, according to Holovaty, also intends to introduce reform of Ukraine's internal passport system in the coming year, replacing it with a single system of numbered identification cards.

Holovaty also said he would propose that the Cabinet of Ministers conduct a census of the entire population. The previous one was carried out in 1989 and, according to Holovaty, the government doesn't have exact data on the quantity of employable population, pensioners and children.

Justice Ministry specialists also intend participate in current work on a new constitution and a civil code, which he referred to as "the second Constitution."

Nationalists Accuse Defense Minister of Undermining Army

LD1101115396 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian
0930 GMT 11 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Kiev — The Ukrainian National Assembly [UNA] demands that a parliamentary commission be set up immediately to investigate the activ-

ities of Defense Minister Valeriy Shmarov and the Defense Ministry collegium, says a UNA statement sent to the UNIAN news agency.

"Together with the collegium, Shmarov signed 26 documents which were prepared in advance and the implementation of which will completely undermine the Ukrainian army," the document notes. "Thus, in accordance with the plan for bilateral cooperation between the Russian and Ukrainian defense ministries for 1996, the transfer by Ukraine of a number of Black Sea Fleet technical facilities and military property to Russia is envisioned," the statement says. "The Defense Ministry collegium," the statement stresses, "made a decision, which only the Ukrainian Supreme Council can make, namely that Ukraine is going to take part in forming the CIS collective security system. This decision makes the declaration of independence completely null and void, namely the point about non-bloc status and neutrality."

Former Crimean Supsov Speaker Interviewed

WS1101133696 Kiev VSEUKRAINSKIYE
VEDOMOSTI in Russian 5 Jan 96 p 3

[Interview with former Crimean Supreme Soviet Chairman Serhiy Tsekov, member of the "Crimean Republican Party" faction in the Crimean Supreme Soviet, by V. Kolychev; place and date not given: "There Is Not Even a Whiff of Democracy in Our State" — first two paragraphs are VSEUKRAINSKIYE VEDOMOSTI introduction]

[FBIS Translated Text] Although many officials and mass media declare that the situation in Crimea is becoming stable, it is possible to rephrase "Hamlet:" "Not everything is quiet in the kingdom of Crimea." Disputes about the presidency in the autonomous republic, Crimean statehood, or relations between the government and the Crimean legislature are not subsiding. In addition, the indefinite situation surrounding the Crimean Constitution and who will head the Crimean Cabinet of Ministers does not at all instill confidence in tomorrow; and we would like so much to wish such confidence to Crimean residents at the beginning of the new year.

So what developments are currently taking place on the peninsula and what will the autonomous republic face in the immediate future? A VSEUKRAINSKIYE VEDOMOSTI correspondent asked former Crimean Supreme Soviet Chairman Serhiy Tsekov, member of the "Crimean Republican Party" [RPK] faction in the Crimean Supreme Soviet, to answer these questions as well as a number of others.

[Tsekov] The situation in Crimea remains tense. Before my resignation, the "Russia" faction had the majority of

votes in the Crimean Supreme Soviet. At the time, we were reproached; the crisis in the autonomous republic was blamed, so to say, on our tough pro-Russian position and the inability to find a common language with Kiev. Hence, the replacement of the Crimean Supreme Soviet leadership was included in the agenda. Yevhen Suprunyuk replaced me and the regrouping of forces took place in the legislature: the "Creation" faction headed by Mr. Shevyeu emerged. Relations between Crimea and Ukraine, however, have not improved. Will the Crimean Constitution be approved? I think that the Ukrainian Supreme Council would have regarded our Constitution with more respect, if the "Russia" bloc continued to exist. But when, as is often emphasized, pro-Ukrainian leaders came to power in the legislature, Kiev began to think that the Crimean Constitution could be approved only after the adoption of the Ukrainian Constitution.

In addition, the crisis in the Supreme Soviet and the government has not been resolved. Once we were blamed for the inability to effectively cooperate with the government. The current leadership of the Crimean Supreme Soviet, as is known, as well as we in March 1995 made Prime Minister Anatoliy Franchuk resign, thus triggering a quite ambiguous reaction on the part of Kiev.

[Kolychev] Perhaps a new prime minister will appear in Crimea in mid-January 1996. What candidates does your faction propose for this post?

[Tsekov] The "Republican Party of Crimea" and the "Unity" factions have put forward two candidates. They are Crimean People's Deputy Vasyl Kiselev, "Friendship of Peoples" agricultural company head; and Ukrainian Deputy Economics Minister Leonid Minin. The "Russia" faction has proposed consideration of Crimean Deputy Prime Minister Arkadiy Demidenko. In the opinion of the "Creation" faction, Anushavan Danelyan, Crimean Supreme Soviet deputy chairman, or Deputy Prime Minister Andrey Senchenko must occupy the post of prime minister.

[Kolychev] Saburov's example demonstrated that the people from outside do not get acclimatized in Crimea. Where did the candidacy of Minin emerge from so suddenly?

[Tsekov] When we planned the distribution of forces in the legislature, we saw that no faction would be able to elect its candidate to meet the demands of the majority of deputies. Therefore, we decided to find a candidate who would meet the requirements of the majority. Leonid Minin is a qualified economist, an expert; he has worked for four years in the Ukrainian

Government. He has visited Crimea and many of our deputies know him.

[Kolychev] By the way, why has Mr. Franchuk not played up to the powers-that-be in Crimea?

[Tsekov] At first, it is necessary to say a few words about elections to rayon and city soviets. It is no secret that well-known Crimean commercial structures and representatives of organized crime have come to power in provinces. Anatoliy Franchuk did not suit the leaders of some commercial structures, because he did not want to cooperate with them, or to be more exact, he did not want to share power with them. In addition, Franchuk failed to win the favor of the current Supreme Soviet speaker. Mr. Suprunyuk is not an independent leader; he has no serious support in the Crimean Supreme Soviet and, therefore, he is forced to orient himself toward various groups in the legislature, primarily toward the "Creation" faction. By the way, the Party of the Economic Revival of Crimea, which favors Crimean statehood in words but pursues absolutely different objectives in reality, makes up its core. It is known that when some representatives of this faction were in Kiev last spring, they raised the issue of the annulment of the presidency in Crimea as well as of the Crimean Law on Elections to Local Bodies of Power. As a result, the Crimean Government was resubordinated to the Ukrainian Cabinet of Ministers. Naturally, Yevhen Suprunyuk would like to strengthen his authority by placing an individual — reporting and accountable to him — in the prime minister's chair.

[Kolychev] Do you also continue to think that Crimea needs the institution of a presidency?

[Tsekov] Before the presidential elections, the RPK did not see the need for the introduction of the presidency in the Republic. By the way, Yuriy Meshkov, before his election, supported the same viewpoint. After Yuriy Meshkov became president, we discussed this issue, concluding that the president has the right to be the highest official but cannot head up the executive power. The examples of Russia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia demonstrated to what presidential rule leads to. As regards us, we prefer the parliamentary republic where the head of the executive power is elected by the Supreme Soviet and reports to it. Yes, we continue to consider even now that decisions adopted by the Ukrainian legislature regarding the institution of president in Crimea are illegal. The Crimean people had to resolve the destiny of Meshkov by means of a referendum. If the president and the Ukrainian Supreme Council supported this viewpoint, it would have been possible to speak about the building of a genuinely democratic state in Ukraine. We had the right to introduce the institution of president

in Crimean Autonomous Republic and the Ukrainian Supreme Council, by the way, did not oppose this at the time.

The situation with the government is the same. The Law on Crimean Government is constitutional; it has not been abolished by any one; and when the Ukrainian president resubordinated our government to Kiev, he acted illegally. Hence, there is only talk about democracy in Ukraine, but in reality there is not even a whiff of democracy there.

Economic Issues

Kuchma Suspends VAT, Excise Tax Collection
WS1001095696 Kiev INTELNEWS in English
0202 GMT 10 Jan 96

[By Oleksandr Pukhov, "Special to INTELNEWS"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev, Jan. 9 — Citing confusion in their regulations, President Leonid Kuchma has suspended collections of value-added and excise taxes from enterprises with foreign capital and ordered the government to submit clarifying documents by next month.

The move, a temporary boon for importers, threatens to play havoc with this year's budget, which is predicated on the collection of revenues from a 20 percent VAT on imports.

The decree, according to its text, was made necessary by recent unfavorable rulings of Ukrainian arbitration courts against government attempts to collect the taxes from enterprises with foreign investments.

The confusion apparently stems from Parliament's rejection last year of government proposals to raise revenue through elimination of certain tax exemptions.

Kuchma's decree, which was issued last week, also suspended late-payment penalties for enterprises with foreign investments.

"Proceeding from the controversial interpretation of the mechanism of collection of value-added tax and

excise duties from goods which are being imported by enterprises with foreign investments, the Cabinet of Ministers is to complete within one month" the revamping of the regulations, according to the decree. The decree also aims to settle the extent to which the taxes can be included in the final prices of the goods in question. The Cabinet, after studying the problem, is to submit proposals on collection of the taxes by Feb. 10, and determine their effect on the 1996 budget, which has yet to be approved by Parliament.

The budget, as it currently stands, projects that KBV743.8 (karbovantsi) trillion, or about 22 percent of all revenues, is to be derived from VAT.

National Bank To Change Reserve Requirements 'Gradually'

WS0801110896 Kiev INTELNEWS in English
0151 GMT 7 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Kiev, Jan. 5 — Deputy National Bank of Ukraine [NBU] Governor Volodymyr Stelmakh said new requirements for Ukrainian banks will be introduced gradually instead of immediately from the start of the year, as was planned.

It was scheduled to introduce from Jan. 1, 1996 a mandatory 15 percent hard currency reserve to be placed by commercial banks in their NBU correspondent account.

NBU Governor Viktor Yushchenko said since the NBU is gradually changing the situation with correspondent accounts, it will work with banks individually throughout the first quarter on the 15 percent reserve requirement.

New minimums for banks' authorized funds (BCU500,000) and founding capital (ECU1 million) will be instituted at the same time for every bank.

The Association of Commercial Banks had lobbied the NBU vigorously, complaining that only 20 percent of commercial banks meet these new standards.

Belarus**Parliament Fails To Elect Speaker**

*LD1001171496 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1549 GMT 10 Jan 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] MINSK, Jan 10 (Interfax-West) — According to preliminary results of the vote in Belarusian parliament, held in Minsk Wednesday, all four candidates for the post of speaker failed to get the required majority (50 percent plus one vote), a member of the commission for the count told Interfax.

The following candidates were competing for the post:

Stanislav Bogdankevich, leader of the United Civil Party and former National Bank head;

Mechyslaw Hryb, former parliament speaker; .

Sergey Kalyakin, head of the Belarussian Communist Party;

Semyon Sharetskiy, head of the Belarussian Agrarian Party.

The second round of elections for the post of speaker is expected to be held today.

Under the present regulations, if none of the candidates gets a majority of votes in the second round, other candidates for the post of speaker may be put forward Thursday.

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev Signs Decrees on Powers of State Leader

LD1001202796 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1846 GMT 10 Jan 96

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] A decree "On President of the Kazakh Republic" signed by Nursultan Nazarbayev will much expand and enhance powers of the state leader.

Presidential legal aide Igor Rogov told Interfax, this document was signed in accordance with a law on temporary assignment of additional powers to the president to fulfill the new constitution adopted at a nationwide referendum on August 30.

"It was important to adopt an act for regulation of the state leader's work in accordance with constitutional requirements," said Rogov. He reminded that the president had signed a number of constitutional decrees on activities of various power branches — the parliament, the government and the like.

(The Kazakh leader signed about 100 decrees, which are valid as laws, since the parliament was recognized illegitimate in March 1995 — IF).

According to the presidential aide, "many of the competences and powers of the president specified by the law reproduce the constitution." For instance, the constitution says that Kazakhstan is a presidential republic, the president is the state leader and top-ranking official to outline major areas of the national foreign and domestic policies.

The president shall be elected in universal secret voting for a period of five years. The same person cannot be elected president for more than two terms in a row.

On consent of the parliament, the president shall nominate a prime minister. In contrast to previous laws, deputies do not have to approve of cabinet members. The president has the right to decide on terminated powers of the cabinet, dismiss a premier or any member of the cabinet. He also can fully or partially suspend the validity of government resolutions.

The state leader can dissolve the parliament, fix the date of regular and pre-time elections of the parliament, and announce a universal referendum. Under the new law, the president is the only person who can initiate changes and amendments in the Constitution. Deputies are stripped of this right.

The president is the supreme commander-in-chief. He appoints and dismisses top-ranking military commanders.

The president's competence is spread on other spheres of state building. He appoints and dismisses the chairman and two members of the Constitutional Council.

His recommendation is given to introduce to the Senate candidates to the chairman and members of the Supreme Court. On consent of the parliament, he nominates and dismisses the Prosecutor General and Chairman of the National Bank.

On representation of the premier, the president nominates administration heads in regions, large cities and the capital. IF Note: Nursultan Nazarbayev had told Interfax that the new Constitution gives the state leader very large powers. In his opinion, "Kazakhstan should become a republic with strong presidential rule. The country will need it for a long period. Kazakhstan cannot hold the planned reforms in a parliament republic, because we are lacking the culture and traditions of parliamentarianism. Fears of consolidated power of one person are groundless."

Kyrgyzstan

Cooperation Protocol Signed With Georgia

LD1001093196 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program
Network in Russian 0600 GMT 10 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The signing of a protocol on cooperation between the foreign ministries of Kyrgyzstan and Georgia took place at the Foreign Ministry yesterday. [Kyrgyz] Foreign Minister Roza Otunbayeva and First Deputy Foreign Minister of Georgia Mikhail Ukleba put their signatures to the document. The agreement covers a number of bilateral matters concerning cooperation in politics, the economy and culture. The talks also dealt with the forthcoming summit of the CIS countries at which the question of a settlement to the Georgia-Abkhazia conflict is to be considered.

Government Adopts Agriculture Support Plan

LD0901103496 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program
Network in Kyrgyz 1400 GMT 8 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The multiple and multipurpose financial inputs into the republic's agriculture have not led to any appreciable positive results of late. Harvests are still falling, livestock is decreasing in number, the agricultural goods being produced are decreasing in volume, and many peasant holdings are working at a loss and are unable to repay the credits they have received.

To deal with this situation, the government of the republic has adopted a resolution to set up a program of extraordinary support for agriculture. A state commission comprising seven members, headed by Dzhumagulov, the republic's prime minister, is being set up to prepare and ensure implementation of the program. An agency to implement the extraordinary program of the Kyrgyz Republic, with a staff of five, is also being set up. The agency will be an independent institution, and will carry out the orders of the state commission.

Armenia**Deputy Emergencies Minister Arrives at Hostage Site**

LD1101114896 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1127 GMT 11 Jan 96

[By Boris Kipkeyev]

[FBIS Translated Text] Moscow, 11 January (ITAR-TASS) — An operational group of the Emergencies Ministry [MChS] headed by Deputy Minister Valeriy Vostrotin arrived today in the village of Pervomayskoye, where the Dudayevite terrorists are holding about 300 hostages, to render assistance. The ITAR-TASS correspondent was informed of this in the press center of the MChS. The group includes rescue workers and doctors. They have brought with them special equipment and medicines.

Daily Discusses Reasons for British Minister's Visit
NC0901203096 Yerevan NOYAN TAPAN in English 1812 GMT 8 Jan 96

[“NOYAN TAPAN Commentary by David Petrosyan”—NOYAN TAPAN Headline]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yerevan, January 8 (NOYAN TAPAN)—Unlike Germany, which also sent its Foreign Minister to Transcaucasus late December of the last year, Great Britain is not a member of the OSCE Minsk Group for Karabakh problem and formally has rather limited opportunities to promote soonest settlement of the crisis in the region. To a great extent it is due to the fact that during the past four years the United Kingdom led a one-sided policy in the region conspicuously emphasizing its interests in relation to oil-rich Azerbaijan. This policy was harshly criticized in Britain itself and only lately this country has showed a more balanced approach opening its embassy in Armenia. Unlike Germany which does not take part in the “oil-games”, the “British Petroleum” is the essence of the international consortium for development and transportation of the Caspian oil. Naturally, Great Britain is interested in the soonest settlement of the Karabakh conflict in order to start gaining its oil profits. Obviously the official London does not have any means for influencing Armenia which is a result of the one-sided policy in the region. Besides, with the Ulster problem on the hands London prefers to avoid talks about “a nation's right of self-determination”, and rather mentions the “territorial integrity”, although both of these principles are equally reflected in the appropriate OSCE documents. This also refers to the Karabakh problem. On the other hand, Great Britain possesses means for influencing Azerbaijan and supposedly Mr. Rifkind needed to find out Armenia's position on the

following two issues: possibilities for construction of the Caspian oil pipeline through the territory of Armenia; and settlement of the conflict in Karabakh. He needed this information to correctly conduct his conversations in Baku. In other words the primary goal of the British diplomat's visit to the region was Baku where London has priority interests and pressure levers. This can explain why Mr. Rifkind's visit to Armenia was so short.

Judging by all, Great Britain's actions in the region both in respect of the Karabakh conflict and the pipeline route are a part of a global Western plan worked out in Washington and realized through joint efforts of the USA and its partners. The strategic aim of the plan is to force Russia out of the sphere of influence. However, the plan is limited timewise. After the Presidential elections in Russia, its foreign policy will develop more dynamically which will be an obstacle in implementation of this plan. It is quite possible that one of the stages of this grand “diplomatic game” is the principle agreement among Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey on establishment of a customs union similar to that of the Benelux countries. Besides, unlike its policy of the past years, Washington pays more attention to the specifics of the region and in this case actively involves its partners which unlike the USA are on good terms with Iran. Possible the next step of Washington will be an attempt to hold negotiations on settlement of the Karabakh conflict in the US, like the negotiations in Dayton and Maryland. Moscow may have to face the concluded agreement.

Seemingly this plan has chances to succeed. Nevertheless, we should not forget that Transcaucasus is not like Bosnia or the Near East where Moscow had very limited opportunities to influence the events. Transcaucasus is traditionally Russia's influence sphere where, unlike the USA and its partners, it has its troops deployed. It's not likely therefore that Russia will agree to merely accept the agreement signed by others.

Probably, the greatest obstacles in reaching its strategic aims the West encounters in Armenia. This is caused by a number of important aspects:

- a) Russia's presence is most resultative in Armenia. Despite the existing problems Armenian-Russian military cooperation is actively progressing
- b) relations between Armenia and Turkey (the chief implementer of the American policy in the region) remain rather tense despite the efforts of Western, especially American mediators
- c) the vast majority of the population and the leadership of the country views Turkey as the greatest threat to its

national security, while Russia is perceived as guarantor of national security

d) the vast majority of large industrial enterprises of the country are still tightly connected economically and technologically with Russia and other CIS countries, and search for markets not in the West but among the countries of Middle East (Iran, Arabian countries, countries of the Persian Gulf etc)

e) Iran is very influential in today's economy of Armenia, it controls a considerable share of transportation which supply fuel, raw-materials and food

f) the absolute majority of the population and weakened opposition still view Russia as their main military ally and it would be rather difficult to persuade the people to abandon this traditional pro-Russian attitude.

Judging by all, the financial levers will be the most influential tool for influencing Armenia, Georgia and Azerbaijan. This is alleviated by the weakness of the political opposition in all these countries and absence of strong alternative candidates for presidency in the above-stated countries.

Summarizing Mr. Ryskind visit to Armenia, it is necessary to point out that it was a result of efficient work on part of the Armenian Embassy in London headed by Armen Sargsian and the Embassy of the United Kingdom in Armenia headed by David Miller.

Armenian, Iranian Officials Inaugurate Bridge With Iran

NC1001194696 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1730 GMT 10 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The bridge over the Araks river was inaugurated in a ceremony held in Meghri on 9 January. Gagik Harutyunyan, the Armenian vice president and chairman of the state commission on Armenian-Iranian ties, and members of the commission attended the ceremony. Morteza Mohammad Khan, the Iranian economy and finance minister and chairman of the commission on Iranian-Armenian ties, and other officials were present on the Iranian side.

Following the inauguration of the bridge, the delegations of the two countries left for the Iranian border town of Jolfa, where the two commissions held a joint meeting. A number of problems relating to border crossings and round-the-clock operation of the customs services were examined and relevant decisions were adopted. Henceforth, the customs service will work round-the-clock. Agreement was also reached to clarify the regulations concerning border crossings, thanks to which problems existing on the Iranian side will be eliminated. It was agreed to convene the next joint

meeting in April to discuss matters relating to bilateral, tripartite, and multilateral cooperation.

ARFD Session Creates Election Commission

NC0901175296 Yerevan ARAGIL ELECTRONIC NEWS BULLETIN in English 0751 GMT 9 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Yerevan ("ARAVOT" daily), 01/09/96 — Immediately after the New Year holidays ARFD [Armenian Revolutionary Federation Dashnak-tsutyun] Bureau called its first session, and created a commission to prepare the elections of the Supreme council and body of the Armenia structure.

Azerbaijan

Iran Rejects Overture on Joint Caspian Development

MM0801154896 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 6 Jan 96 p 15

["Own information" report: "Iran in Solidarity With Russia" — from the "Departmental Supplement"]

[FBIS Translated Text] In mid-December the Azerbaijani Government proposed that Iran take part jointly with U.S. companies in the development of the gas and oil deposit on the Caspian Shelf near Lenkoran, not far from the Iranian-Azerbaijani border. But the Iranian leadership responded with a rejection, citing the lack of legal documents enabling the Caspian Sea's resources to be developed.

In Tehran's opinion none of the region's countries has the right to consider any parts of the Caspian "its own" until clear interstate borders have been established in this expanse of water.

Like Russia, Iran considers the Soviet-Iranian declaration of 1940 on the "internal nature" of the Caspian Sea and its resources, which are "closed" to non-Caspian states and foreign companies, to be valid. Thus, Tehran supports Moscow and Ashgabat in the belief that until "intra-Caspian borders" have been established none of this region's countries has the right to expropriate even its own Caspian Sea coast, let alone on its own behalf invite foreign companies to develop coastal resources.

Official To Visit Tehran 22-25 Jan

NC1001145396 Baku TURAN in English 1000 GMT 10 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku/10.01.96/TURAN— From January 22 to 25 the State Advisor for Foreign Political Affairs, Vafa Guluzade, will visit Tehran to discuss bilateral political, economic and cultural issues, the deputy Ambassador of Islam Republic Iran

in Azerbaijan, Afshar Suleymani, told Turan. He also mentioned this visit can prepare the ground for visit of Azerbaijan's Foreign Minister and President Aliyev to Iran.

Suleymani believes now business visits are necessary. But, possibly, during the visit of Vafa Guluzade the preference will be given to the political issues, Afshar Suleymani noted. He did not exclude that in Tehran Guluzade is to discuss the issue concerning participation of the Irani side in development of the oil-field "Shahdeniz".

Iran's Deputy Ambassador also said in the near future vice-speaker of Azeri Parliament, Yashar Aliyev, also plans to visit Iran. This visit is connected with the second session of the joint Irani-Azerbaijani governmental commission. The issues concerning construction of railway branch Astara-Astara and the cement plant in Nakhichevan will be discussed during the session.

Afshar Suleymani expressed regret that the documents signed during the first session of the joint Irani-Azerbaijani governmental commission have not been implemented.

The representative of the Embassy of Iran believes both states can cooperate in the field of machine-building and agriculture. As far as free economic zone development in Azerbaijan is concerned, it will be more advantageous for Iran to create it in the border regions.

Afshar Suleymani has backed up the opinion of President Aliyev that the year of 1996 will be successful for the relations between Iran and Azerbaijan.

Aliyev Wants Action in Karabakh, UK Cooperation in Oil

LD0501202896 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1816 GMT 5 Jan 96

[From the "Presidential Bulletin" feature by reporters Anna Kovalyova, Nikolay Zherebtsov, Andrey Petrovsky, Boris Yunanov]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] President Geydar Aliyev believes that leading world powers must get involved together with the warring sides in efforts aimed at settling the Armenian-Azeri conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh.

"I hope Britain will also make itself felt in this business," the Azeri leader told visiting British Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind in Baku on Thursday.

Aliyev said now was the time to tackle the Karabakh problem in earnest, but any peace settlement must be based on fundamental principles such as territorial integrity, national sovereignty and repatriation of refugees.

The president expressed satisfaction over bilateral cooperation which, he said, was based on the oil sector. He spoke of unquestionable achievements made in this area in the past few years and praised the activity of British Petroleum and other Western companies operating in Azerbaijan. Aliyev said negotiation was now under way with Moscow as part of the biggest oil deal this century aimed at pumping early oil from Azeri fields via Russia and Georgia. IF Note: Moscow and Baku are about to strike an agreement on Azeri oil shipments via Russian territory, according to a government resolution issued in Moscow on Wednesday. Under the proposed deal, Russia will charge \$15.67 per tonne of crude pumped through its pipelines. Azerbaijan is expected to pump an annual 5 million tonnes of oil via Russia by the year 2000.]

Aliyev reaffirmed an invitation to British Prime Minister John Major to visit Baku he made while in London earlier last month. "We may as well say preparations for the coming event have now begun," he told Rifkind.

For his part, the Foreign Secretary said Britain was setting great store by the existence of independent Azerbaijan and seeking to develop wide-ranging contacts with that country.

He said the fact that a British company should lead in oil exploration in Azerbaijan was important to London and pledged assistance to British companies entrenched in that country.

On the Karabakh conflict, Rifkind spoke of London's determination to help towards a just and lasting solution to the regional conflict. He said major positive shifts were made in resolving conflicts in Bosnia, the Middle East and South Africa in 1995 expressing the hope that Karabakh would be no exception. Rifkind said Britain was hopeful that the warring sides would be able to narrow their positions soon.

At the same time, the Secretary said that no amount of international effort could help unless the warring sides show some flexibility. And he pointed by way of example to the long-running conflicts in Cyprus and Kashmir which were in the focus of international attention, but no tangible progress had so far been made there.

On the same day Rifkind met his Azeri counterpart Hasan Hasanov.

The two countries signed an agreement on investment incentives and investment protection with their foreign ministers issuing a joint statement.

Gasanov Says Rifkind 'Satisfied' With Visit
NC0901200196 Baku TURAN in English
1828 GMT 8 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Baku/08.01.96/TURAN— "Malcolm Rifkind was satisfied with the results of his visit to Azerbaijan," journalists was told by Foreign Minister Gasan Gasanov, who commented on the results of the visit of his British colleague.

"Rifkind was satisfied with the level of constructiveness and compromise of Azerbaijan" in the question concerning the Armenian-Azeri settlement, Hasanov said. According to him, Rifkind did not discuss the details of the settling, only the conception of the question.

"Conception in turn is that the status of Nagorno-Karabakh should be resolved within the frames of territorial integrity of Azerbaijan," Gasanov said.

Commenting on the words of Rifkind, that 1996 can become the year of peace, Hasanov said that there is a ground for such forecast. "First, it is political will of the parties not to resume military actions and to look for ways of peaceful resolution. Secondly, it is the will of the parties to look for and to find compromise, refuse from emotions, ambitions and mutual accusations, understanding of the fact that territorial integrity of Azerbaijan should be maintained."

Gasan Gasanov also noted that the question on participation of Great Britain in the peacekeeping forces of the OSCE was also discussed. According to Gasanov, Great Britain never refused to take part in these forces. Gasanov noted that Azerbaijan would like some more countries to take part in the creation of peacekeeping forces.

Georgia

Shevardnadze Concerned About Security in Moscow

LD1101121196 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1107 GMT 11 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] TBILISI, Jan 11 (Interfax) — Eduard Shevardnadze will himself decide whether it is expedient to go to Moscow for the summit of heads of CIS states, presidential press secretary Vakhtang Abashidze told Interfax Thursday.

"There are certain apprehensions concerning the security of Shevardnadze's stay in Moscow because the former head of Georgia's Security Service, the terrorist Igor Giorgadze, still remains at large," Abashidze said.

If Shevardnadze makes a positive decision concerning his trip to Moscow then he will try to meet with Russian President Boris Yeltsin. "This confidential meeting is

expected to discuss a wide spectrum of issues regarding mutual relations between the two countries," Abashidze said.

For his part, speaking about Shevardnadze's security, Georgia's Interior Minister Kakha Targamadze told Interfax that "in line with the acting international convention, the country which receives top-ranking officials from another state pledges to ensure their security and Russia's appropriate services have given such guarantees."

Seeks Security Guarantee

LD0801102196 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network
in Georgian 0800 GMT 8 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze will participate in the CIS summit (in Moscow 19 January) only if the Russian Government ensures his security, according to Revaz Adamia, chairman of the Georgian parliamentary Committee for Defense and Security. The Georgian side's caution is based on the fact that the Russian Government has not yet extradited to Georgia Igor Giorgadze, the organizer of the 29 August terrorist act (attempt on Shevardnadze's life).

Officials Discuss Shevardnadze's Security

LD0901162096 Tbilisi IPRINDA in Russian
1535 GMT 9 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Tbilisi, 9 Jan (IPRINDA) — According to the reports by the Georgian parliament's press center, Kakha Chitaia, chairman of the parliamentary committee for foreign relations, today met with Foreign Minister Irakli Menagharishvili. They discussed issues connected with the security of Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze at a meeting of the CIS foreign ministers scheduled for 19 January in Moscow.

Despite an official demand by Georgia former security chief Igor Giorgadze has not been arrested yet and is currently living in Moscow.

Chitaia requested Irakli Menagharishvili that the Foreign Ministry send an official note to the Russian Foreign Ministry in order to guarantee Eduard Shevardnadze's security during his stay in Moscow.

Shevardnadze Denounces Killing in Gali Region

LD0701174796 Tbilisi First Program Television
Network in Georgian 1600 GMT 7 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze has voiced deep concern over the incident that happened in the Gali District village of Shesheleti on 5 January when Abkhaz militants killed ethnic Georgians, torturing to death six members of the Sanaia

family — husband and wife, children, and grandchildren — and shooting dead their two neighbors who came to help them.

It is very sad that this savage act happened in Abkhazia in the presence of foreign observers and Russian peacekeeping forces. This points to their indifferent attitude toward the tragic processes currently underway in the region and causes both a great disappointment and a definite protest, the Georgian president said. At the same time a well-founded question arises — why are the world institutions that protect human rights silent, when they are obliged to reveal and assess formidable acts like that and sound the alarm when the right of tens of thousands and hundreds of thousands people to live is violated?

The president believes that all this is aimed to thwart the peace process and to legitimize the results of ethnic cleansing and genocide in Abkhazia.

Denounces Terrorism of Chechen Rebels

*LD1001092396 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
0909 GMT 10 Jan 96*

[By Tengiz Pachkoria]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] TBILISI, January 10 (Itar-Tass) — Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze denounced the terrorist act by Chechen rebels in the Dagestan city of Kizlyar, expressing deep indignation at the capture of hostages from among local population.

The Georgian leader said that actions by Chechen gunmen are aimed at destabilizing the situation in the region and in Russia as a whole.

The Georgian president's press service reported that the Georgian State Security, Defence and Interior ministries took urgent measures, on orders from Shevardnadze, to strengthen the Chechen and Daghestan sections of the Georgian-Russian border.

Shevardnadze said that Georgian power-wielding structures are ready to render assistance to their Russian counterparts.

Tbilisi Stops 200 Abkhaz Fighters Heading for Chechnya

*LD1101103996 Moscow Russian Television Network
in Russian 0500 GMT 11 Jan 96*

[From the "Vesti" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] Quoting data from the operational reports of Georgia's State Security Ministry our correspondent in Tbilisi, Nikolay Kandiasvili, reports that around 200 Abkhaz fighters tried to violate Geor-

gia's state border with Russia during the early hours of the 10 January in order to get into Chechnya through Georgian territory.

[Kandiasvili] But the forces of the Defense Ministry and the State Security Ministry, who were backing up the guard on the border on the direct orders of the republic's president, Shevardnadze, cut short the attempt.

The republic's secret service also managed to intercept a radiogram from Dudayev's irregulars appealing for assistance from Abkhaz armed formations.

Experts link the recent events in Kizlyar to the killing by Abkhaz fighters of eight Georgian civilian refugees from the Sanaya family who recently returned to Abkhazia. In their opinion, certain forces are trying to stir up all-out war in the Caucasus.

The media in the self-proclaimed Republic of Abkhazia have categorically over the past few days denied that Georgian inhabitants of Gali District had been killed. But today Georgia's secret service supplied photographs which bear witness to this act of barbarity.

In an exclusive interview for our program, the chairman of Abkhazia's Supreme Soviet functioning in Tbilisi, Tomas Nadarishvili, said:

[Begin Nadarishvili recording — in Russian] Several Chechen battalions fought on the side of the separatists. These included Shamil Basayev's battalion which took part in the capture of the towns of Gagra and Sukhumi. So the links which many are talking about today were obvious even back then, two years ago, and I want to stress once again that if this separatist fever which arose in Abkhazia had been cut short in time then maybe there would have been no Budennovsk, maybe there would have been no North Caucasus war, maybe yesterday's tragedy in Kizlyar would never have happened? [end recording]

Abkhaz Parties Appeal to Yeltsin To Lift Blockade

*LD0901101796 Sukhumi Republic of Abkhazia Radio
in Russian 0415 GMT 9 Jan 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] Public and political organizations and movements of the Republic of Abkhazia sent an appeal to Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin. The appeal says:

The situation around Abkhazia sharply deteriorated in recent days. This is linked to implementation of the Shevardnadze-Kozyrev plan for the settlement of the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict. The plan envisions a series of measures, including increasing the powers of the CIS peacekeeping forces in Abkhazia, entrusting them with

policing functions, imposing a complete blockade on Abkhazia, and using economic and forceful methods of influence.

As is known, Abkhazia has more than once expressed readiness to be together with Russia. In return, for more than a year the multi-ethnic people of Abkhazia, weakened by war and natural disasters, have been subjected to a most severe blockade by the Russian Federation Government. Several days ago the Russian Federation Government decided to close Sukhumi seaport, which used to receive small amounts of essential foodstuffs for the starving population of Abkhazia.

At the request of the Georgian authorities, a meeting of CIS leaders in Moscow on 19 January will examine measures, including military ones, to put pressure on Abkhazia. Such a policy is fraught with the most serious consequences for the region as a whole, because it may lead to the Balkan scenario repeating itself in the Caucasus and to the easing of Russian influence, which is the aim of Shevardnadze and the political circles in the West and Russia which support him.

In expressing serious concern about the development of events, public and political parties and movements of Abkhazia appeal to you, Boris Nikolayevich, to use all your reputation and influence to prevent the resumption of war in Abkhazia, to take measures to lift the blockade, and to contribute to a peaceful and just settlement of the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict.

The appeal is signed by Alania for the Aidgylara public and political movement, Zamenia for the Communist Party of Abkhazia, Lakba for the People's Party of Abkhazia, Ayba for the federation of free trade unions of Abkhazia, Ardzinba for the Council of Elders of

Abkhazia, Nikitchenko for the Council of Russian Communities of Abkhazia, Loginov for the Slav House of Abkhazia, Topolyan for the Armenian charity society Krunk, Taria for the Abkhaz republican Council of War and Labor Veterans, Kichba for the Union of Abkhazia's Mothers for Peace and Social Justice, Pilia for the Union of Women of Abkhazia, and Fatulidi for the Greek Society of Abkhazia.

Deputy Foreign Minister, Kazakh Foreign Minister Hold Talks

*LD1101132896 Tbilisi CONTACT INFORMATION
AGENCY in Georgian 1200 GMT 11 Jan 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] Tbilisi — The deputy Georgian foreign minister, Mikheil Ukleba, visited the republics of Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan at the special order by the Georgian president, Eduard Shevardnadze, on 6-10 January.

Ukleba and the Kazakh foreign minister discussed measures for fighting the Abkhaz separatist regime to be considered at the meeting of the foreign ministers of the CIS member-states on 12 January and later at the CIS summit in Moscow on 19 January.

It is noteworthy that the Kazakh side and President Nursultan Nazarbayev unanimously support Georgia's position at the meeting.

The two sides also discussed the development of Kazakh-Georgian relations, and in particular in the fields of transport, the economy and other spheres.

It was decided that a group of experts would visit Georgia in mid-January and draw up a new package of agreements.

Estonia**Meri Calls Relations With Yeltsin Model for Tallinn, Moscow***LD1101130996 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1107 GMT 11 Jan 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] TALLINN, Jan 11 (Interfax) — In an exclusive interview with Interfax, Estonian President Lennart Meri invited his country and Russia to model relations on the "normal and humane" relations which exist between himself and his Russian counterpart Boris Yeltsin.

Meri has always had the opportunity to talk with Yeltsin and although they "would not always share views of everything," the two Presidents enjoy that dialog and benefit from it.

Meri took advantage of the interview with Interfax to urge some Russian leaders and media people to refrain from the expression of "extremist views" which do not always reflect the views of the Russian government, parliament and public. In Meri's own view, some Russian leaders are making moves which may produce a rift between Russia and the West. If it again turns its back on the West, Meri said, Russia will face a tragedy.

Meri said he had always been concerned about the problems of the Russian community of Estonia. Although relations between native-born Estonians and ethnic Russians had recently been "very strained," Meri sees a tendency for improvement in that field and although he would welcome earlier improvement in interethnic relations, he is "happy to declare that Estonia is one of the few European countries where not a single drop of blood has been shed in interethnic fighting."

Parliament Adopts Law on State of Emergency*WS1101125096 Tallinn BNS in English
1819 GMT 10 Jan 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Tallinn, Jan 10, BNS — The Estonian parliament on Wednesday [10 January] adopted the state of emergency law, by which a state of emergency in the whole country for a period of up to three months may be declared at the president's or the Cabinet's motion.

The parliament may declare a state of emergency if protection of the constitutional order is impossible without the application of a state of emergency.

According to the law, the danger to the constitutional order may be caused by a forcible attempt to subvert the existing constitutional order, terrorist activity, collective action of pressure connected with violence, a conflict between large groups of people connected with violence, or the forcible isolation of some part of Estonia.

Justice minister Paul Varul said state defense during the state of emergency is organized, besides the parliament, the President, the Cabinet and the defense forces commander, also by the prime minister and the interior minister, the latter as chief of interior defense.

During the state of emergency the government is permitted to institute curfews, restrict travel into and out of Estonia, strikes and lockouts, ban meetings and manifestations, restrict the publication of information in mass media, etc.

According to the state of emergency law the president must convene the state defense council if there is danger to the country's constitutional order.

The president's authorized representative, the defense forces commander or his authorized representative, and the defense council chairman, or in his absence the deputy chairman, are entitled to take the floor at Cabinet meetings where deployment of defense forces and other issues connected with the state of emergency are discussed.

Latvia**Minister Says 1995 Deficit Hits 92 Million Lats***LD0501134396 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian
1000 GMT 5 Jan 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] The most pessimistic prognoses have been fulfilled. The state budget deficit at the end of last year amounted to 92 million lats. As Finance Minister Aivars Kreituss told a news conference today, in the last two months, when the Saeima was unable to form a government, the state budget was spent recklessly. (?It pained him) to have to bring up such unpleasant matters, but he had already called for the resignation of (?unnamed) officials. Among them is the administrative head of the state alcohol monopoly. Kreituss did promise, however, that the truth will be found out, will be acknowledged, and the real condition of the country's finances will be made public. The new government does not want to take responsibility for the acts and promises of the former cabinet of ministers.

Premier Plans Cuts in Financing*LD0801201696 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian
1800 GMT 8 Jan 96*

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Prime Minister Andris Skele today called privatization and capitalization of enterprises' debts as priorities of his work. On the other hand, the European Union and the eastern market will be main spheres of Latvia's external economic activity in the immediate future.

However, money is at the basis of everything. According to the prime minister, the former government of the Latvian Way, which pursued populist policies, is responsible for the current catastrophic situation with the state budget. Maris Gailis's government was unable to resist the demands of individual ministries. Neither has it developed further the reforms that were started. It has also impeded privatization. (Therefore), as Andris Skele said, there is no way that any social problems can be tackled until the Latvian national economy is put in order. And the state budget for 1996 is at the basis of it. Andris Skele said the following about this.

[Begin Skele recording] Additional funds could be allocated — and it seems that they will exceed the previous year's amounts — to the Interior Ministry, Welfare Ministry, and possibly to the Education Ministry. The financing of other ministries will be cut because the situation with the debt, which includes internal and external debt and the real budget deficit, is simply catastrophic. Practically every lat in your and our pockets has been borrowed. The amount of money borrowed is equal to the amount of cash in circulation in Latvia. Does that not prove something? Therefore, measures aimed at reducing the budget deficit will be already quite serious during the first year — in this budget. I will not change my conviction that the budget deficit should not exceed about 60 million lats. The budget is, of course, the most difficult issue. As you can see, it is so in the whole world. [passage omitted, including indistinct portions] [end recording]

Foreign Minister on European Integration Program
LD0901180696 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian
1700 GMT 9 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] The Latvian national program for integration into the European Union must be prepared by the end of June, simultaneously with Italy taking over the presidency of this organization, believes Latvian Foreign Minister Valdis Birkavs. Latvia has already arranged all the formalities for its entry to the European Union, and what is necessary now is to work out a program to introduce special arrangements. However, the necessary financing for working out the program may be delayed.

Lithuania

Foreign, Defense Ministers Submit Resignations
LD0501122596 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English
1208 GMT 5 Jan 95

[By Vladas Burbulis]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] VILNIUS January 5 (Itar-Tass) — A government crisis hit Lithuania on Friday

[5 January] after Foreign Minister Povilas Gylys and Defence Minister Linas Linkevicius offered to resign because of contradictions with the prime minister.

Linkevicius explained his decision by discontent with the policy of Premier Adolfas Slezevicius.

"I do not want to work in the existing situation in the government headed by Adolfas Slezevicius", he told Tass and qualified the situation as "a political and moral crisis".

Gylys said he was resigning because he "always stood for a democratic development of the state in which laws are dominating for everybody". There is nothing of the kind in Lithuania so far, he added.

The resignation is yet to be approved by President Algirdas Brazauskas.

Both ministers are members of the ruling Lithuanian Democratic Labour Party.

Brazauskas Comments on Resignations

LD0501155296 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network
in Lithuanian 1415 GMT 5 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Text] This afternoon members of the cabinet of ministers had a meeting with President Algirdas Brazauskas. The foreign minister and the defense minister, who had handed in letters of resignation, did not take part in the meeting.

After the meeting the cabinet said that they would continue to carry out their duties in Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius' government.

Here is President Algirdas Brazauskas on the resignation of the ministers:

[Begin Brazauskas recording] The ministers who were present here said unanimously that they were prepared to continue their duties. They are aware of how difficult the current situation in the government is and they also are aware of the government's tasks, especially with regard to the unpleasant banking affairs. Therefore, they are concerned, of course, what the possible decisions I have in mind coming from me as the president may be and, they are also concerned about the statements of resignation by [Defense Minister Linas] Linkevicius and [Foreign Minister Povilas] Gylys.

These ministers have handed in their letters of resignation on certain grounds and I am determined to resolve this matter in a few days. [end recording]

Slezevicius Views Resignations

LD0501162096 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network
in Lithuanian 1416 GMT 5 Jan 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The following is what Prime Minister Adolfas Slezevicius thinks about the defense and foreign ministers submitting their resignations:

[Begin Slezevicius recording] Anyone in any post who carries out duties has a constitutional right to make his own decisions about his own future. I can have a critical view of their motives, although they are entitled to have their own opinion. We discussed the letters of resignation and the motives behind them at the cabinet meeting today [passage omitted]

The cabinet members had a different point of view on the situation, they presented it to the president during the meeting with him today.

Of course, each minister has the right to have his own opinion on the situation in the cabinet. [end recording]

Foreign Minister To Retain Post

LD0901195696 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1558 GMT 9 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] VILNIUS, Jan 9 (Interfax) — Lithuanian Foreign Minister Povilas Gylys has decided to stay in the government.

He told a news conference in Vilnius Tuesday that by staying in the cabinet headed by Adolfas Slezevicius he has acceded to the requests of his party colleagues and of President Algirdas Brazauskas. Gylys is a member of the Democratic Labor Party's ruling body.

Gylys and Defense Minister Linas Linkevicius submitted their resignations to Brazauskas last Friday. In particular, Linkevicius explained that he could not work in the Brazauskas cabinet which is in a "moral and political crisis."

The government crisis was mainly caused by the difficult situation in the Lithuanian banking system after the activities of two major commercial banks, the Lithuanian Joint-Stock Innovations Bank (LAIB) and Litimpeks, were suspended in late December.

Slezevicius withdrew money from his LAIB account on the eve of the suspension of the bank's activities. Various politicians described the fact as an abuse of power and demanded that he resign.

Gylys stressed that he had not changed his mind about the "political and moral error" committed by the prime minister.

Speaking about the prospects for Lithuanian foreign policy in 1996, Gylys said that it will not change and

will be mainly aimed at Lithuania's integration into European institutions.

National Bank Chairman Tenders Resignation

LD0901140696 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1245 GMT 9 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] VILNIUS, Jan 9 (Interfax) — Lithuanian Bank chairman Kazys Ratkevicius on Monday handed his letter of resignation to Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas.

This step will make it easier for the parliament "to take a decision relieving him of his post" during its special session Tuesday on the bank crisis, he said Monday night on local TV.

Ratkevicius disagreed with accusations by some politicians that the Central Bank "has not ensured adequate supervision of commercial banks' activities," causing the insolvency of two leading Lithuanian commercial banks, the Lithuanian Joint-Stock Innovation Bank and Litimpeks.

He also said that from December 1, 1995, to January 8, 1996, the amount of people's deposits in Lithuanian banks fell by 14 percent, and of hard currency deposits by 22 percent.

Brazauskas Calls Russian Relations 'Normal,' 'Neighborly'

LD1101130796 Moscow INTERFAX in English
1107 GMT 11 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] VILNIUS, Jan 11 (Interfax) — Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas believes that his republic's relationships with Russia have become "normal and neighborly."

He told Interfax on Thursday that there are "practically no more unsolved problems in the relations between the two countries. He believes that "both sides have learnt to respect each other, to seek and find mutually acceptable compromises."

Assessing the prospects for further cooperation between the two countries, Brazauskas said that "the further development of economic contacts, and the resumption of summits which are of vital importance for bilateral relations would meet the interests of both Lithuania and, possibly, Russia."

Speaking about the strengthening of European security, Brazauskas said that "the security of Lithuania, other Baltic countries and Europe as a whole largely depends on Russia."

"Russia should take part in this process," said the president.

Brazauskas expressed doubt that it is expedient to create in Europe security structures alternative to the NATO alliance since "so far this alliance is capable of ensuring this security in practice."

"I believe that strategic cooperation between NATO and Russia is of global importance for the security of the entire planet," said the head of the Lithuanian state.

Foreign Minister Views Russia's Primakov Appointment

WS1101125196 Tallinn BNS in English
1819 GMT 10 Jan 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Vilnius, Jan 10, BNS — Russia's decision to appoint former director of foreign intelligence service, Yevgeniy Primakov, as its new foreign minister propted analysts' speculations on possi-

ble changes in the Moscow's foreign policy, Lithuania's foreign minister Povilas Gylys told BNS.

In his comments on Primakov's appointment, Gylys pointed to "the dynamic political situation in the country, the results of recent State Duma elections and the coming presidential elections" as major factors which influence Russia's foreign policy.

Lithuania's foreign minister said it was premature to predict possible actions of the new Russian foreign ministry's head.

However, he said Lithuania was interested in the further promotion of democratic reforms in Russia, its integration into the global economic system and its active participation in settling international problems.

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 388
SPRINGFIELD, VA.

This is a U.S. Government publication produced by the Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS). Its contents in no way represent the policies, views, or attitudes of the U.S. Government.

FBIS collects, translates, disseminates, and analyzes foreign open-source information on behalf of the U.S. Government. Its publications may contain copyrighted material. *Copying and dissemination is prohibited without permission of the copyright owners.*

- Bracketed indicators before the first sentence of each item describe the way in which the material was processed by FBIS.
- Headlines and all bracketed explanatory notes are supplied by FBIS.
- Personal and place names are rendered in accordance with the decisions of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names as adapted by FBIS. Unverified names in radio and television material appear in parentheses and are spelled phonetically; words and phrases in parentheses preceded by a question mark are unclear in the original and deduced from context.

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

U.S. Government Customers

For a list of FBIS products, to subscribe to an FBIS publication, or to indicate a change of address contact:

FBIS
P.O. Box 2604
Washington, DC 20013-2604
Telephone: (202) 338-6735
FAX: (703) 733-8042

Non-Government Customers

Subscriptions are available from the National Technical Information Service:

NTIS
5285 Port Royal Road
Springfield, VA 22161
Telephone: (703) 487-4630
FAX: (703) 321-8547

New subscribers should expect a 30-day delay in receipt of the first issue.